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Overseas edition

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Russia says US seized innocent ship

Germany urges diplomatic solution in Gulf

From Ian Murray in Bonn and Mary Dejevsky in Moscow

THE German leadership spoke of peace and John Major talked ominously of war as James Baker, the American Secretary of State, continued his last round of Gulf diplomacy yesterday.

In a comprehensive round of contacts, which took him to Paris, Bonn and Milan, Mr Baker set the stage for today's crucial meeting in Geneva with Tariq Aziz, the Iraqi foreign minister, where the Western alliance and Baghdad will have a final opportunity to test each other's determination. His words were reinforced by a message from President Bush, being distributed around the world.

Mr Major, talking to British forces in the Saudi Arabian desert, said the allied forces would unleash the full power of their disposal against Saddam Hussein even if he withdrew his forces from most of Kuwait.

Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, and Hans-Dietrich Genscher, his foreign minister, told Mr Baker that while Bonn fully supported United Nations resolutions calling for

Iraq to leave Kuwait, they believed that diplomacy rather than force was the better way of achieving this.

The difference of emphasis between Bonn and Mr Major on the final day of the prime minister's visit to Saudi Arabia found an echo in the Gulf, with the Kremlin accusing the United States of detaining a Soviet vessel laden with spare parts and military equipment. The incident appeared likely to drive a wedge between Moscow and Washington at a crucial moment for the anti-Iraq alliance.

The Kremlin said the American and Spanish navies had seized a Soviet cargo ship in the Red Sea, but denied that the military spares it was carrying were bound for Iraq. The Soviet foreign ministry said that the vessel, Dmitri Furmanov, was boarded on January 4 by the allied officers patrolling to enforce a ban on arms and other supplies going to Baghdad. The cargo, bound for Jordan, was searched without the captain's presence and while the crew were held in the mess. The warships had surrounded the vessel, and were barring its passage to Jordan.

"The ship is in the Red Sea, surrounded by warships of Spain and the United States. From time to time, helicopters of the United States circle overhead," the ministry said in a statement. "(This) is another attempt to throw doubt on the actions of the Soviet side in complying with UN resolutions," it added.

"The Soviet side declares that neither the cargo nor the route of the ship violate UN resolutions and that it considers the incident aimed against the commercial activities of the Soviet merchant marine."

The statement said that the ship was carrying 106 tonnes of spare parts and maintenance equipment for the Jordanian military. The captain complied with UN procedures and raised no objection to the search, it added. No non-declared cargoes were found. As for 11 boxes found in a separate room, "all the necessary documents for them were present".

In Washington, Pentagon sources confirmed that secret

caches of weapons had been discovered on the Soviet vessel. The cargo included rocket launchers, detonators, explosives, tank parts and command-and-control equipment, some of which "was not on the manifest", officials said.

A spokesman denied that the vessel had been detained, saying that it had simply been "boarded and diverted". The ship was intercepted in the Gulf of Aden and was apparently bound for Jordan from Odessa, on the Black Sea. The spokesman said that he had no knowledge of its subsequent destination.

President Bush, apparently referring to the possibility of a surprise Iraqi proposal in Geneva today, gave a warning in a taped message distributed round the world that Saddam "may seek to split the coalition, to exploit our sincere desire for peace, to secure for himself the spoils of war." He predicted that any such attempt would fail, just as all his previous attempts had failed over the past five months. Mr Bush acknowledged: "Pressures are now building to provide Saddam Hussein some means of saving face, or to accept a withdrawal that is less than unconditional."

But without mentioning by name the French or other nations that have begun direct dialogues with Baghdad, the president continued: "The danger in this course should be clear to all. The price of peace now on Saddam's terms will be paid many times over in greater sacrifice and suffering. Saddam's power will only grow, along with his appetite for more conquest. The next conflict will find him stronger still, perhaps in possession even of nuclear weapons, and far more difficult to defeat."

In Paris, Mr Baker and his French hosts made a brave effort to reaffirm the common purpose of French and American diplomacy, with the two sides declaring total solidarity over their Gulf objectives.

Brave show, page 6
US condemned, page 7
Peter Stothard, page 8
Leading article and Letters, page 9
First casualty, page 22

Airlines on alert to fly out injured

By HARVEY ELLIOTT, AIR CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH airlines have been asked to put aircraft and crews on stand-by, ready to provide a medical evacuation fleet if war breaks out in the Gulf.

Ministry of Defence officials have inspected jets now used on both scheduled and charter flights and they are drawing up a list of those suitable for conversion to carry casualties to Britain.

Although it may be necessary to requisition aircraft and their crews, the ministry hopes there will be enough volunteers to man those aircraft that airlines make available.

Under contingency plans now being completed, any casualties would be taken to hospitals away from the front line by helicopter, before being flown directly to Britain in RAF transport aircraft or

Airlines pull out, page 7

Major plain, direct and not quite Henry V

From ROBIN OAKLEY IN DHAHRAN

IT WAS not quite how Margaret Thatcher would have done it. There was a lot more *con brio* with her.

It is doubtful if Michael Heseltine would have talked to troops in the desert dressed in the sort of fawn shirt and slacks that John Major probably once wore to slip into the newsagent's for a packet of peppermints.

But when the prime minister told the squaddies of the Third Battalion, The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, many of them youngsters from Lancashire who had been in the desert no more than a fortnight, that he would listen to any points they made and talk to the defence secretary, Tom King, about them, they could believe instantly that he would.

Mr Major lent himself, as modern prime ministers must, to the needs of the

television camera crews and climbed on board the Challenger tank of Brigade Commander Christopher Hamerbeck, beaming amiably like a school swot who has scored a surprise half century, to belt down the track in a plume of sand, dust and black smoke.

His address to the troops was more fireside chat than Henry V, however. Unscripted, direct and unvarnished it was all the more effective for its lack of artifice. This is a prime minister who pays audiences the compliment of talking to them rather than to the world outside.

Having flown over the seamless desert from Jubail to see a battle group of the 4th Armoured Brigade in training, Mr Major had probably been as awed as the rest of us by the huge expanse: sometimes flat and crusty like a pie, sometimes soft and drifting like a vast tin of pancake sugar, sometimes formed

into shapes like giant upturned jelly moulds. Up close, tanks and the other military hardware look huge. As you fly over in a Puma helicopter they are pinpricks writing signatures in the sand.

Greeted by the top brass with plumes in their berets, Mr Major sat the troops down to tell them why they were there. Blinking into the sun over his shoulder, rifles across their knees or propped beside them, chemical warfare suits and gas masks at the ready, the young Desert Rats, wearing the insignia of a jerboa with its tail up, listened intently.

He told them, to the steady crump of practice artillery shells exploding a few miles away, that he hoped he would not have to call on their fighting skills, but unless President Saddam Hussein cleared out of Kuwait, "we will invite you forcibly to remove him with your allies". Britain and the other allies, he

Continued on page 16, col 3

Lithuania regime resigns in price row

From BRUCE CLARK IN MOSCOW

THE Lithuanian government resigned last night after clashing with deputies over prices, prompting fears that the Kremlin will now tighten its grip on the territory.

Those fears were exacerbated after Mr Rafik Nishanov, a senior Soviet official, criticised the outgoing Vilnius government and claimed that there was widespread desire in the Baltic state for firmer government.

The Lithuanian Parliament, which last March sent shock waves through the international community by declaring full independence from Moscow, voted to accept the government's resignation by 72 votes to eight, with 22 abstentions.

The administration of the Prime Minister, Kazimiera Prunskiene, was effectively paralysed after deputies voted to reverse government moves to raise many prices.

Similar price rises, urged by liberal economists as an inevitable concomitant of moves towards a market economy, are being pushed through in Latvia and Estonia.

As a political crisis raged inside the Lithuanian Parliament, opponents of the republic's move towards independence, mainly members of the Russian and Polish minorities, staged a rowdy protest outside. A few managed to break down a steel door but were quickly repelled.

President Vytautas Landsbergis said there were plans for an attempt to storm the Vilnius Parliament today, presumably by anti-independence demonstrators.

Only about a thousand people responded to an appeal by Mr Landsbergis to come to parliament and demonstrate their support for the republic's sovereignty.

Budget clash, page 5

Driver interviewed after train runs into buffers

By MICHAEL DYNES AND MICHAEL HORSNELL

ACCIDENT investigators yesterday interviewed the driver of the crowded commuter train that ploughed into the buffers at Cannon Street station, London, after an apparent brake failure, leaving one dead and 247 injured.

Doctors, paramedics and firemen fought for three hours to rescue about 200 passengers from the wreckage of the 7.58 from Sevenoaks, Kent, which crashed into the terminal at 8.44am. The severity of the wreckage shocked rescuers who were told the train was travelling at 5mph.

The stunned driver, who was injured, told Daryl Lake, aged 20, a builder from Bromley who was travelling in the front: "The brakes failed, the brakes failed."

The ten-carriage train, which should have been carrying no more than 800 passengers seated and 80 standing, was understood to have been carrying up to 1,000.

London teaching hospitals swung into action to cope with the injured and medical teams were flown in by helicopter to provide treatment.

All the injured were cut free by 12.15pm, allowing engineers to strip the braking system.

The passenger who died is believed to be a man in his early 30s who suffered severe head and abdominal injuries and a heart attack, apparently caused by blood loss.

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Rail experts said the severity of the wreckage was inconsistent with the speed at which British Rail said the train was moving, and suggested it must have been travelling at 15 to 20mph.

The accident will now be investigated by HM Inspector of Railways, which was recently transferred from the transport department to the independent Health and

Safety Executive, and by British Transport Police.

The accident, the first involving a fatality since the three rail disasters at Clapham and Purley in London, and Bellgrove Junction in Glasgow, occurred the day after British Rail was committed for trial at the Central Criminal Court for failing to provide an effective signalling system and endangering the lives of passengers at the Clapham disaster two years ago.

Chris Green, director of Network SouthEast, said the high casualty rate was partly due to the number of passengers who stood up to be ready to leave the train, compounded by about 200 commuters forced to stand for much of the journey and the structural weakness of the 1950s rolling stock.

Pan Am files for protection

By HARVEY ELLIOTT AIR CORRESPONDENT

PAN AM, the American "flag carrier" airline with debts of more than £500 million, yesterday applied for protection under chapter 11 of the American bankruptcy laws.

For 120 days, it will be allowed to operate a full service while being freed from having to pay creditors. In the short term Pan Am has secured \$150 million (£78.6 million) loans from Bankers Trust and United that, together with \$30 million from its own reserves, will keep it afloat while financial restructuring takes place.

The American transportation department has given preliminary approval for the transfer of Pan Am's Heathrow operations to United Airlines for £140 million.

Report, page 17
Full circle, page 19

Panic on platform 3 after 5mph accident

By NICHOLAS WATT

SHOCKED passengers huddled together in little groups on the concourse of Cannon Street station yesterday, dazed and unable to believe that a routine commuter journey had turned into an horrific train crash.

They sat on the platform on the train's blue velvet seats, which had been ripped out of the carriages by passengers and ambulance crews. The injured sipped cups of police tea, as they nursed nosebleeds, head injuries and bruises.

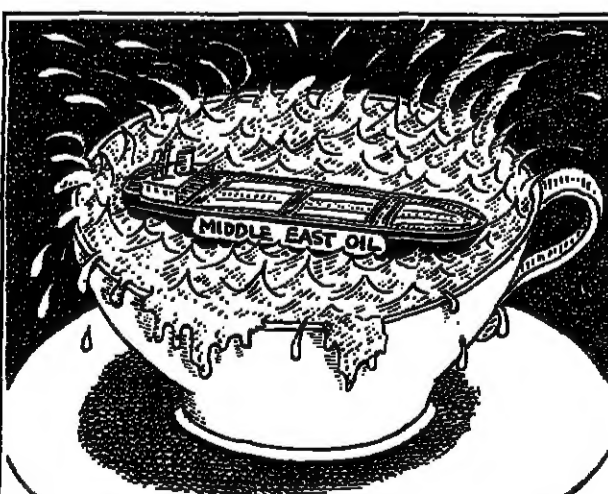
Emergency workers milled around, tending to the injured. Some were carried out to ambulances on stretchers; one

man lay in the concourse pale and unconscious.

Other passengers, who had minor injuries, spoke of the "mad panic" as the train made its normal approach into the station at 5mph but failed to brake and slammed into the buffers at 8.44am.

Daryl Lake, aged 20, a builder from Bromley, Kent, said: "The train was only going five to 10 miles per hour - I just can't believe there could be this much damage. When I got off the train there was debris all over the place. Ambulance men were ripping out the seats and using them

Continued on page 16, col 5



Regrettably it's no storm in a teacup

Because the Middle East holds two-thirds of known oil reserves, any political action or conflict in the region quickly reverberates around the Western world.

Ever since Suez in 1956 the world has faced successive oil crises. Supplies face disruption, prices can spiral and economies hold their breath.

And when the price of oil goes up, experience shows that the price of gas is likely to follow suit.

Britain enjoys one major source of energy, nuclear power, whose cost is unlikely to be

affected by events in the Middle East.

We buy our uranium, the raw material for nuclear fuel, from such countries as Canada, Australia and the USA.

No one yet knows how current events in the Gulf will resolve themselves.

What we can be sure of is that more nuclear power stations could provide added security in a volatile, energy-hungry world.

If you would like to know more about nuclear energy, please send for our information pack.

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Or write to: The British Nuclear Forum, 22 Buckingham Gate, London SW1E 6LB.

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Authority to appeal

South West Water Authority, which supplied 20,000 of its customers with water contaminated with aluminium sulphate, is to appeal against its conviction and £10,000 fine yesterday at Exeter Crown Court.

The authority, now replaced by South West Water plc, was found guilty of causing a public nuisance..... Page 4

Gummer accused



John Gummer, the agriculture minister, has been accused of delaying the adoption by the European Community of fish conservation measures in the North Sea, which he claims credit for promoting..... Page 3

Winning formula

Bidders for the new national commercial "non-pop" radio franchise, advertised today by the Radio Authority, hope to use a formula of popular classical music..... Page 4

Hard ecu plea

The Treasury unveiled draft amendments by Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, to the founding treaty of the European Community calling for the adoption of Britain's hard ecu alternative route to monetary union..... Page 17
Leading article, page 9

Turners for sale

Art and furniture from the offices of Polly Peck International, which includes two Turner watercolours, could raise £3 million..... Page 17

England foiled

Australia retained the Ashes in Sydney yesterday, despite a fighting performance by England on the last day of the third Test, which ended in a draw..... Page 30

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Hospitals ignore cash crisis to tackle Cannon St crash

By JILL SHERMAN
SOCIAL SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

LONDON teaching hospitals, crippled by financial difficulties, swung swiftly into action yesterday to cope with hundreds of injured passengers from the Cannon Street train crash.

St Bartholomew's hospital, which has been on red alert since last August after closing more than 150 of its beds, was designated as the main accident hospital and treated 108 crash victims by lunchtime. Guy's hospital, which will become self-governing in April, dealt with 120 casualties although most were shortly released after being treated for minor injuries. Hundreds of staff volunteered to extend their shifts or come in on their day off and managers struggled off the cost

implications of reopening closed beds.

Yesterday most emergency cases unrelated to the crash were automatically diverted by the London Ambulance Service to other hospitals in central and east London, allowing Bart's and Guy's to concentrate on treating as many of the train victims as possible. Casualties arrived at both hospitals throughout the morning. Doctors, nurses and porters volunteered for duty when they heard the extent of the accident. At a mobile blood transfusion unit at Guy's people queued in the pouring rain to give blood.

"We coped very well. Only on Monday we had been discussing our role in the event of casualties in the Gulf. This was not a

rehearsal though, it was real," Major General Norman Kirby, consultant in charge of the accident and emergency services at Guy's, said. He added that overcrowding on the train undoubtedly contributed to the high number of injuries. "When you get a busy train like this jammed with people, many of them standing up, then they all fall on top of each other. Many of the injuries were caused by briefcases and other luggage falling on top of people."

David Skinner, consultant in the accident and emergency department at St Bartholomew's, said he also believed that the overcrowding had increased the number of injuries. Two operating theatres at Bart's were designated exclusively for the crash victims and doctors had to ensure that

patients were discharged quickly so that enough beds were available. Patients needing urgent operations were telephoned in the morning and told not to come in. One woman with cancer had her operation postponed for a day after hurried negotiations with her consultant. The 16-bed admission ward was cleared by mid-morning with its incumbents moved to other wards.

Managers were waiting to reopen a 24-bed ward as the casualties continued to be brought in towards lunchtime. Thoughts of mounting financial debt were momentarily cast aside, as doctors and managers were faced with the more pressing crisis of dealing with fractured necks and limbs.

"It was a bit of a cat-and-mouse game, not knowing how many

casualties would be coming through, but patients come first. We can worry about finances later," Timothy Jones, the hospital's duty officer, said. Luckily 100 beds closed at Christmas to save money reopened on Sunday and Monday. Within half an hour of the crash the casualty department was manned by 60 doctors, with another 50 standing by.

More than 60 nurses were also on duty - many of them having telephoned the hospital to volunteer their services after hearing of the crash. "The staff have been magnificent," Pam Higgs, chief nursing officer, said. "Some came in on their off day, night staff coming off duty stayed to help while others stopped what they were doing and immediately reported in." At 8.57 the hospital

was notified that it had been designated as the main hospital to deal with crash victims. Bart's newly revised major accident policy was put into immediate effect. "It was amazingly effective, considering what happened at the rehearsals," Mr Jones said.

All staff arriving at the casualty department were given a bib or a badge at a central co-ordinating unit and a card setting out their role and duties. A special section was set up for the police and the press and for the continual stream of anxious relatives. Two emergency medical teams from the hospital attended the scene of the crash with a cardiac unit. Drugs, dressings and resuscitation equipment were laid out on the platform on seat cushions from the train to serve as a medical base. As

soon as the patients arrived at Bart's they were assessed by teams of doctors, split into groups according to their condition under a triage system, and taken to x-ray.

Seventeen patients were later admitted to four hospital wards while the remainder were treated for shock or minor injury in the casualty department before being discharged. Dr Skinner said most of the casualties had suffered head injuries and lacerations, causing temporary unconsciousness in some cases.

Virginia Bottomley, health minister, praised the emergency services for their prompt response. "What is clear is that at Bart's there is an accepted way of responding to emergencies."

Leading article, page 9

THE RESCUE

Emergency teams fight to save victims from wreckage

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

A MAJOR emergency was declared by City of London police within ten minutes of the 8.44am Cannon Street crash and by 8.59am the first of more than 80 firemen and over 100 ambulance personnel began arriving.

They were backed by a team of 11 doctors, two of whom were flown in by helicopter, from the fast-response British Association for Immediate Care (Basics) and the London and St Bartholomew's hospitals. The helicopter landed on the bridge outside the recently modernised station and later took the worst injured to hospital in several return flights.

Dr Kenneth Hines, Basics's London unit co-ordinator and one of the first on the scene, said: "It was organised chaos. A large number of people with many injuries were removed rapidly. Most of the casualties had limb and compression injuries. These are never pretty scenes, but there was a lot of good humour. Patients were making jokes and there was no panic."

Dr Judith Fisher, chairman of Basics, said: "It wasn't as horrifying as the Clapham disaster, and people were very good, many of them talking to us as we gave them medical attention."

Passengers trapped in the wreckage of carriages five and six, which took the main impact as 300 tons of metal crashed into the buffers at platform three, were given analgesics and, in about six cases, plasma drips. Surgeons were alerted to perform two amputations to help firemen free those most deeply trapped in carriage five, and defibrillator and resuscitation equipment was brought in, as was equipment to monitor patients' heartbeats and oxygen con-

centration. The equipment, always on stand-by for emergencies, was laid out on the platform on seat cushions from the train.

Sean Brady, aged 26, a senior charge nurse from St Bartholomew's, told how he and colleagues fought to save the passenger who died, a man in his early twenties, who had suffered head and abdominal injuries and had a heart attack, apparently brought on by loss of blood. "We tried for some time to resuscitate him, but unfortunately he died," Mr Brady said. "It was very distressing. You can't think too much about it at the time because you are so busy dealing with other casualties."

Paul Sherry, senior orthopaedic registrar at St Bartholomew's, used sign language amid the noise of the rescue to communicate with a man trapped for nearly three hours under a steel girder. Mr Sherry clambered through a wrecked carriage and slid into a narrow space near the roof to get to the man, in his late thirties, known to him only as Paul.

"He was trapped by the right arm and we were worried that he might lose his arm," said Mr Sherry. "It looked as if he had suffered a compound fracture. He was given pain-killers and didn't say very much. The noise from jack hammers and generators was so great we couldn't make ourselves heard, so we communicated by sign language. He squeezed my hand throughout, which became agonisingly painful."

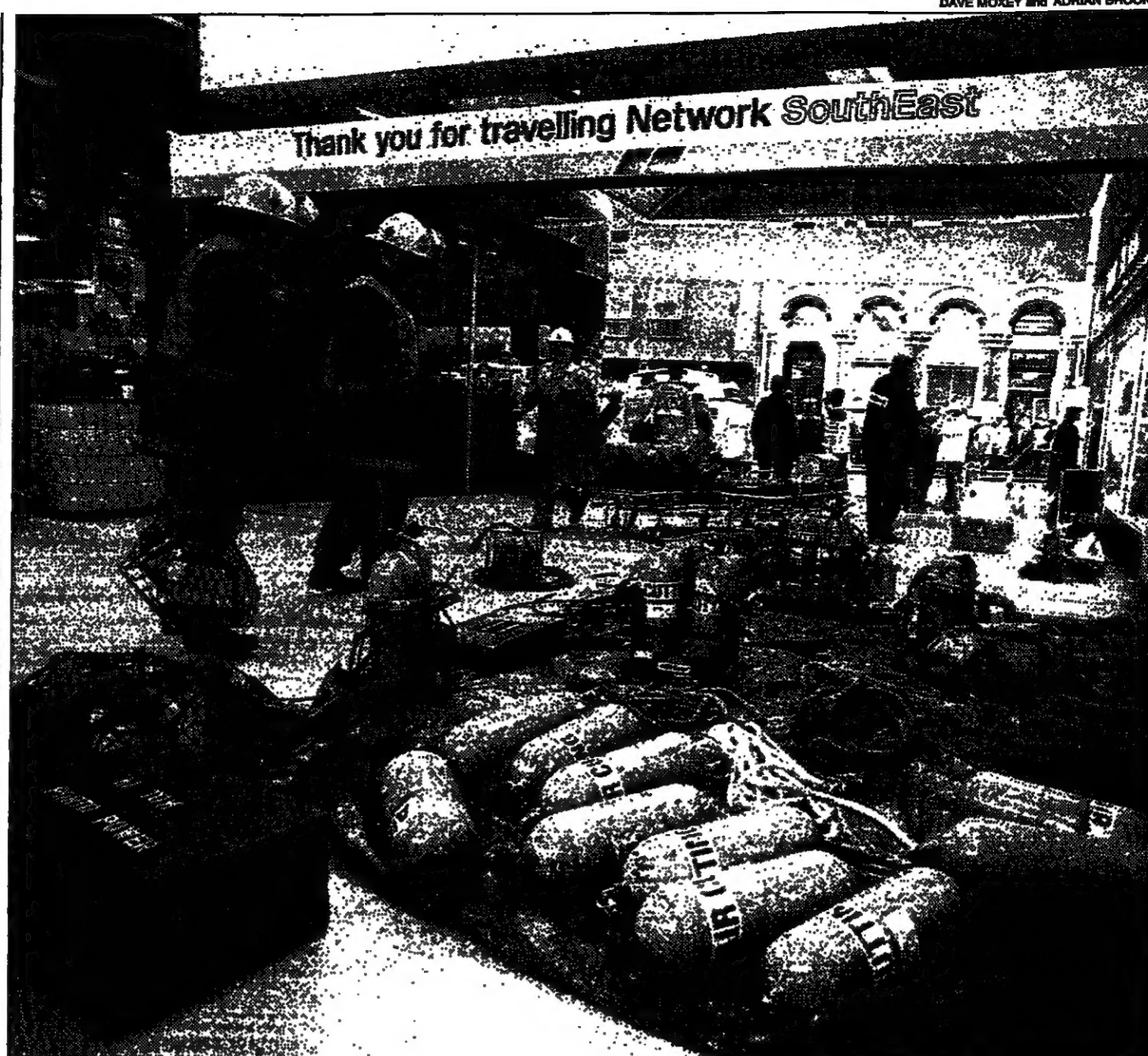
The man was taken to the London hospital, Whitechapel, where Mr Sherry hoped to visit him.

Peter Westwood, a paramedic, said: "It was a real mess, just a tangled wreck where the two carriages came together. It was a pretty horrific sight, believe me."

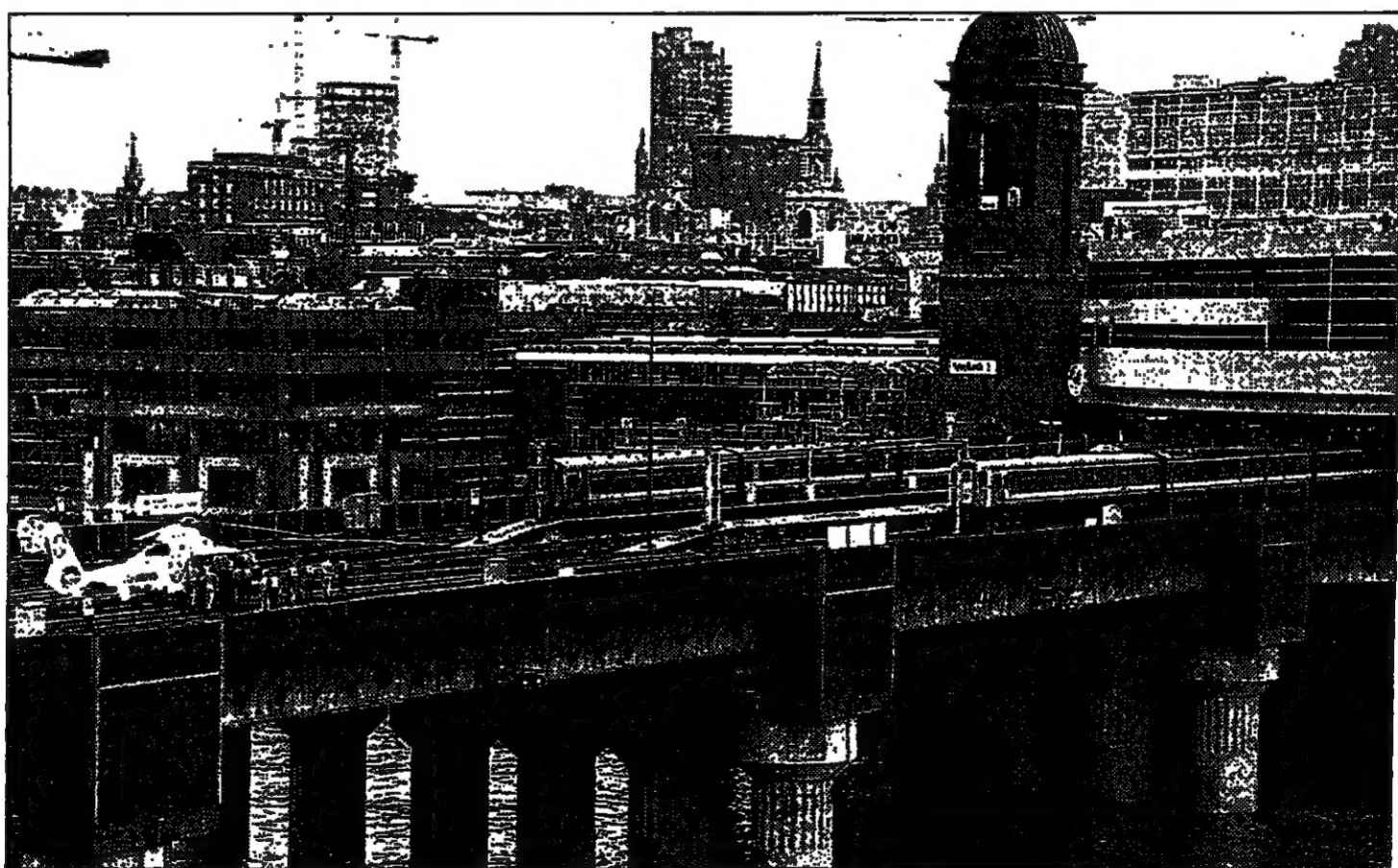
Firemen, who manned two rescue tenders, ten pumps and two control units, had to use compressed-air cold-cutting equipment, because of the dangers of acetylene, and "spreading jaws" which force metal apart. Carriage walls, doors, seats and luggage racks had to be prised apart before ambulance officers and medics could give medical attention.

Michael Bachelor, aged 35, a fireman, said: "There were people screaming and hollering. The difficulty was the lack of space. There was room enough for us, but not for the guys with the cutting machinery. One man had his arm twisted the whole way round and it was very difficult cutting him out. You had to be so careful."

Gerald Clarkson, London's chief fire officer, described rescuers' joint operation as "working in a quiet, assured and collective way to a plan they have rehearsed".



Scene of the crash: rescue workers setting out heavy cutting equipment after the accident at Cannon Street station yesterday; below, an aerial ambulance waiting to take casualties to hospital after landing on the tracks of the rail bridge over the Thames



Chronology of death and injury on Britain's railways

By WILLIAM CASH

BRITAIN'S worst train crash was on May 22, 1916, when 227 people were killed as a wooden troop train and a passenger train collided at Gretna Green. Yesterday's crash at Cannon Street came the day after British Rail was committed for trial to the Central Criminal Court on two charges arising from the Clapham rail disaster, which claimed 35 lives.

Previous rail crashes have included:

Aug 3, 1990: One killed and 38 injured when two passenger trains collided at Stafford station.

Aug 1, 1990: A packed commuter train on the wrong track crashed into a train at Reading station, injuring 41.

July 21, 1990: Nineteen injured when a rail buckled by the heatwave caused a derailment of a rear coach outside Glasgow Central station.

Nov 30, 1989: Fifteen injured when two InterCity expresses collided outside Newcastle upon Tyne central station.

Mar 6, 1988: Two killed when two suburban electric trains collided head-on in Glasgow.

Mar 4, 1989: Five people died and more than 90 injured when two trains collided outside Purley station in Surrey.

Dec 12, 1988: Thirty-five people died and 111 injured in Clapham Junction train crash in south London when express train ploughed into the back of rush-hour commuter train.

Nov 12, 1988: Train driver died and 18 passengers were hurt when a commuter train ploughed into a bridge after leaving the tracks at St Helens, Merseyside.

Oct 19, 1987: Four people died when a train fell into the swollen Towy, in South Wales, after a bridge collapsed.

Sept 19, 1986: Fourteen injured when two trains collided at Forest Gate on the Liverpool Street line in London.

July 28, 1985: Nine people were killed and 11 injured when a passenger train hit a van on a level crossing at Lockington, Yorkshire.

Sept 1988: One person died and 60 were hurt in a collision between two packed express trains at Colwich, Staffordshire.

Dec 4, 1984: Two killed and 77 hurt when a passenger train hit a tanker at Salford loaded with 140,000 gallons of petrol.

Oct 11, 1984: Three killed and 80 injured at Wembley, north London, when a passenger train collided with a freight train.

July 1984: Thirteen killed and 44 hurt in a derailment in Falkirk.

Other serious rail accidents include:

Feb 1975: Forty-three killed and 74 hurt when a train crashed into a cut-de-sac tunnel at Moorgate Underground station, London.

Dec 1973: Ten killed and 94 hurt in an express train derailment at Ealing, west London.

Nov 1967: Forty-nine killed and 78 hurt at Hither Green, south London.

Dec 1965: Ninety dead and 173 hurt at Lewisham, southeast London.

Oct 1952: One hundred and twelve killed and 340 hurt in Harrow and Wealdstone crash.

THE SAFETY ASPECTS

Human error or a mechanical failure?

By MICHAEL DYNES, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH Transport Police and investigators from the railways inspectorate began simultaneous enquiries into the crash in an effort to establish whether the accident was caused by driver error or mechanical failure.

Eye-witness reports that the driver was heard repeatedly screaming "the brakes aren't working" as the train approached the buffers will focus attention on the possibility of brake failure, although human error cannot yet be ruled out.

According to Richard Hope, editor of *Railway Gazette*, the braking system on Southern Region's electro-pneumatic braking (EPB) trains, which is one of the most antiquated of all British Rail's rolling stock, having come into service in the early 1950s, "has a long history of development, and an excellent safety record".

Compressed air cylinders are built into each coach. When the driver operates the brakes an

electrical signal passes down the train opening up a series of valves, allowing air pressure to apply the brake blocks to the wheels. In the event of an electrical failure, an air pipe running the length of the train can be opened enabling the brake blocks to be applied by external air pressure.

Speaking from the scene of the accident, Chris Green, director of Network SouthEast, said that the Sevenoaks train was understood to be travelling at about 5mph when the crash happened. If correct, that would suggest that the brakes were working, at least for part of the journey between London Bridge and Cannon Street, where the train would have been travelling at 20 to 25mph before the brakes would have been applied along the platform.

Mr Hope said that the extent of the structural damage, which included minor buckling in the leading carriage and severe buckling in the fifth and six carriages, was more consistent

with the train travelling at 20 mph. "I'm inclined to believe the driver. Given the amount of damage, it's simply not credible that the train was only travelling at 5mph," he added.

Martin Osbourne, aged 23, a banker who was in the second carriage, said there was "a tremendous crash when the train ran into the buffers and rebounded into the remaining carriages", indicating that the train was travelling at speed. "Many of the doors on the first carriage were bent and buckled, and could not be opened from inside," he said. Other passengers also suggested the train was travelling faster than normal.

Roger Ford, the technical editor of *Modern Railways*, suggested that the extent of the damage could be attributable to the poor design of the rolling stock rather than the train's speed. "Unlike modern trains, EPB rolling stock doesn't have much structural strength," he said. "There are many more doors, which make the

rolling stock weaker, and in a collision the chassis can separate from the carriage and crash into another carriage. The carriages are simply there to keep the rain off passengers."

Critics of British Rail's policy on overcrowding, which permits trains to carry about 10 per cent more people than there are seats, will probably blame the policy for the high casualty rate. The number of people standing will have been increased by those who had left their seats ready to leave the train.

If the accident was caused by brake failure, the proposed introduction of automatic train protection technology, for preventing drivers from passing signals at danger or breaking speed limits, would not have prevented the accident. That technology, which will take about ten years to install throughout the national rail network, will merely verify that a driver has understood a signal and taken the appropriate action.

SURVIVORS' MEMORIES

Support will help to reduce fear

By THOMSON PRENTICE, MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

SURVIVORS who suffer recurrent nightmares about the Cannon Street crash can have their dreams reshaped by psychiatrists to help them over the experience.

In a technique called dream rehearsal, mentally scarred passengers will be offered happier endings to their memories of the accident. They will also be coached gradually back on to trains in order to reduce their fears.

The two methods have been used successfully by psychiatrists dealing with survivors of the King's Cross fire in 1987 and the Clapham rail disaster of 1988. Some of those passengers have been so badly affected, however, that they may never again travel on any form of public transport, specialists said yesterday.

Many of those injured at Cannon Street are likely to suffer post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), in which the symptoms are extreme anxiety, depression, nightmares and intrusive memories. Psychiatrists at St Bartholomew's hospital, where more than a

hundred injured were taken, will offer help to the casualties. Further psychological support will be provided by City of London social services counsellors.

The hospital has a team of 40 psychiatrists and other staff, many of whom helped survivors of the King's Cross fire. Dr Peter White, a consultant psychiatrist at Bart's, said: "The disasters of the last few years in Britain have shown that PTSD is a genuine disorder that we can help to prevent."

"Some patients suffer horrid nightmares but by rehearsing the individual's dream and suggesting alternative endings to it, for instance the train does not crash or nobody is hurt, the experience can be made tolerable. I am sure this approach will be offered to some of those involved at Cannon Street."

Anxious survivors will be gently encouraged to return to the station and to board a train. This technique of graded exposure to the source of their fears is very effective, according to Gary Jack-

son, a researcher in psychiatry at University College and Middlesex School of Medicine, London.

Dr Jackson, who is studying the long-term effects on survivors of King's Cross, said: "We know that some of these individuals still cannot bear to go on any form of public transport. Their anxieties may be life-long, but many others can be treated successfully."

Crash counselling, page 12

CORRECTIONS

The sculptor Silvia Ziranek's pink cellophane has been sponsored by hairdressers Toni & Guy since 1987, not, as stated in a photographic caption on January 3, by Beck's Bier, sponsors of her exhibition.

Frederick Ashton's ballet *Facade* was premiered by the Camargo Society at the Cambridge Theatre in 1931, and not at Sadler's Wells as stated on the arts page (Jan 2).

...ology
 ...death
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South West Water is fined £10,000 over Camelford

By PETER VICTOR

SOUTH West Water Authority, which supplied 20,000 customers with water contaminated by aluminium sulphate last July, was yesterday fined £10,000 with £25,000 prosecution costs. The authority said last night that it planned to appeal against the verdict.

After a 17-day trial at Exeter crown court, the authority, now replaced by South West Water plc, was found guilty of causing a public nuisance by supplying water containing such quantities of aluminium sulphate that public health or comfort was endangered. The authority was acquitted on the judge's direction of allowing polluted water to enter the river Camel.

During the trial the jury was told that consumers telephoned in with complaints an hour after 20 tonnes of aluminium sulphate solution was pumped by mistake into a tank of treated water at the Lowermoor works by a relief delivery driver. Consumers complained about discoloured, contaminated water that tasted foul and metallic. Francis Gilbert, for the prosecution, said the crux of

the Crown case was the absence that night of Raymond Truscott, the authority's standby duty officer, who was at dog-training classes. Mr Truscott could not be contacted for three hours up to 11pm, which meant vital hours for dealing with the pollution and warning the public were lost. Gareth Williams, QC, for the defence, said Coca Cola was more acidic than the polluted water.

After the trial Elizabeth Sigmund, leader of the South West Environmental Protection Association, said she thought the verdict would help the 1,000 civil cases being prepared. The association has been campaigning for medical recognition of the health effects of the pollution.

One family said their lives had been changed by the incident and they now drank only bottled water. Wendy Hilliard, aged 46, a housewife, said: "It costs us up to £100 a month to buy." The family, which drank contaminated water on the day it was polluted, said they were still suffering the effects 30 months later. They said the water also damaged copper pipes in their

home near New Polzeath, 17 miles from Camelford.

After 18 years without a day's sickness her husband, Paul, aged 40, a highways authority bridge inspector, had to give up work. The family said that as a result of the pollution he had suffered memory loss, hair loss and skin and joint problems.

The couple and their daughters, Sarah, aged 17, Gemma, eight, and Amy-Kate, six, live on Mr Hilliard's invalidity benefit. Mrs Hilliard said Lisa, aged 21, their eldest daughter, was away from home but could not work and lived on state benefit.

On the day the water was contaminated Mrs Hilliard telephoned the authority, which said there was nothing wrong. "We boiled the water and drank it, and it made us very very ill." When she washed her hair most of her hair fell out and the rest stuck together, turning a shade of orange.

The next month Dr John Lawrence, a non-executive member of the authority's board, published a report on the incident which criticised the authority. Dr Lawrence, head of the ICI environmental laboratory at Brixham, Devon, said responsibility lay with the authority's operation and supervision of the Lowermoor works, and should never have happened. The criticisms were accepted by Keith Court, the authority's chairman.

The report said John Stephens, the chemical delivery driver, had mistakenly pumped 20 tonnes of aluminium sulphate solution into treated water at the authority's Lowermoor works. Mr Stephens had never been to the works and another driver had told him how to get there and where the aluminium sulphate tank was.

He arranged for the authority to be notified of late delivery but no one was there to meet him when he arrived. Before Mr Stephens had left the site at 5.45pm an automatic alarm sounded in the control room in Exeter, indicating something was wrong. Seventeen days after the incident the authority first admitted the mis-delivery.

Popular rival to Radio 3 seen as viable

By JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK AND MELINDA WITTSTOCK

BIDDERS for the national commercial "non-pop" radio franchise, advertised today by the Radio Authority, hope to recreate the formula of popular classical music that is making profits for New York's WQXR station.

Applications for the eight-year FM national licence, likely to cost £8 million to £9 million, are due in April. The clutch of British consortia vying for the franchise draw optimism from New York, where even the most casual of classical music listeners cannot resist a hit parade of Mozart, Vivaldi and Beethoven provided by two commercial classical stations amid the din of count-down, rap and pop channels. Some 900,000 car-bound commuters, personal stereo devotees and insomniacs tune to New York's highly successful WQXR classical radio station.

The new British FM licence now seems almost certain to be granted to a commercial alternative to

BBC Radio 3.

Initial concerns that a national commercial classical channel would not be economically sustainable have proven unfounded, at least according to David Astor, chairman of Classic FM. "We would not even consider bidding unless we were confident it was a viable commercial venture, as our initial research indicates," he said. "There is terrific demand for a commercial classical station."

Record sales of classical CDs and discs are enormous; opera houses are having to turn people away. Classic FM's backers include Andrew Lloyd Webber's Really Useful Group, The Daily Telegraph, Tim Waterstone of the Waterstone book chain, André Previn, the music director of the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the opera singer Dame Kiri Te Kanawa and NM Rothschild merchant bank. The station would be much more accessible than



Astor: "Terrific demand for classical station"

Radio 3. "There would not be any Indian nose flute music and more Beethoven, Mozart, Strauss and Brahms," Mr Astor said. Radio 3 is not too worried about competition from a commercial rival. A spokesman said: "It would not be commercially sustainable for any franchise winner to fund five orchestras, commit itself to broadcasting live concerts from all major orchestras, opera houses and festivals and act as a patron to

contemporary composers — as the BBC does. Where we broadcast music from an 800-year period, any commercial classical station is likely to restrict itself to the 200-year period from Beethoven to late Romanticism at the turn of the century. There is no doubt there will be an audience for this."

Indeed, broadcasting familiar tunes has proved the best way for the 24-hour-a-day WQXR to attract enough listeners to stay in business.

Thomas Bartunek, the station's programme director, said: "If we put on a piece of music that only three people in the world want to hear, then they are better served by letting them listen on cassette tapes. I do not see any reason to apologise for playing Mozart, Beethoven, Haydn and 50 to 60 other composers that get on the air." But that, he admitted, meant little or no Schoenberg.

WQXR has to conform to certain commercial con-

straints. Each hour the station airs six to ten minutes of advertisements, clustered together once an hour with news bulletins. That forces the station to use shorter pieces, although it avoids playing highlights. Only at lunchtime is there a completely advertisement-free hour of music. Sponsorship, however, allows the station to escape the need for disruptive commercial breaks, with the German airline Lufthansa financing an hour-long programme, and BP America paying the bill for live broadcasts of the Cleveland Symphony Orchestra.

Classic FM, which last year narrowly lost out to Jazz FM for the London incremental licence, is considered the favourite to win the 99.8 to 102 FM national waveband, however, from Lord Hanson, owner of London's easy listening station Melody Radio, and others keen on a mix of easy listening and light classical.

Opera subsidy, page 8

Peat bogs could help beat water pollution

By NICK NUTTALL, TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

THE brown coal mines of Britain and the peat bogs of Northern Ireland could help to clean water supplies of hazardous heavy metals, delegates will be told at the annual conference of the Institution of Chemical Engineers, opening in Cambridge today.

Researchers at Queen's university, Belfast, have tested the ability of lignite, and sphagnum peat moss, dug from local bogs, to absorb the heavy metals discharged into water courses by the metal processing, chemical, printing, and nuclear industries.

The team found that the natural materials can remove all of the hazardous metals at a fraction of the cost of rival systems that use activated

carbon or special resins systems.

The findings also indicate that the metals absorbed by the peat and lignite, brown coal that contains remains of trees, can be recovered cost-effectively and recycled. Stephen Allen, a member of the team, said that the materials could be tailor-made for specific heavy metals such as lead, cadmium, copper, zinc and aluminium. He said that some of the used peat and lignite should also be suitable as fuel.

Dr Allen said that the amount of material needed was unlikely to put environmental strain on peat bogs. National reserves of brown coal are 1,000 million tonnes,

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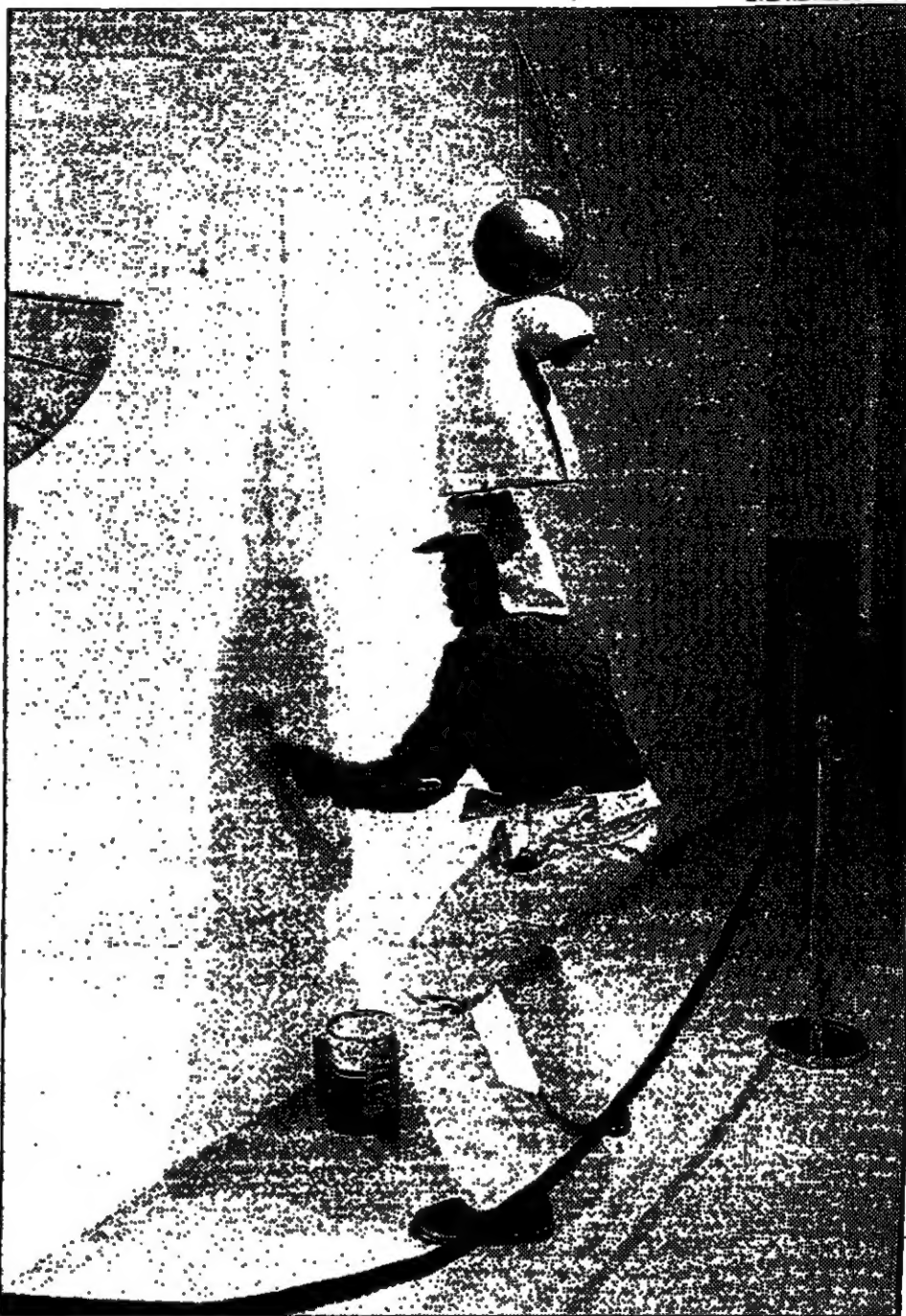
Architects 'expecting less work'

ARCHITECTS are increasingly gloomy about the effects of the recession on the construction industry, with nearly half expecting less work over the next year, according to a report published yesterday (Chris Warman writes).

The latest workload survey published by the Royal Institute of British Architects with Camargue Communications analyses figures for the third quarter of 1990, taken from a sample of one in four practices throughout the UK. The survey shows that the decline in architects' workloads — a key indicator of the health of the construction industry — is continuing.

New commissions for non-housing work in the private sector fell by 11 per cent during the quarter, and the value of work on architects' books has fallen by an average 52 per cent compared with the same quarter in 1989. The institute also said that work on production drawings has decreased throughout the UK.

Although the housing market remains depressed, the survey found architects' workloads are "bottoming out".



Twin peaks: last-minute touches under an extravagant Cleopatra's head-dress before the opening yesterday of an exhibition of Gianni Versace's opera and ballet costumes at the Royal College of Art, London. It runs until Friday, next week.

Minister wants trainees to bear greater share of cost

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

THE government will today clearly indicate that individuals ought to be responsible for their own training, in addition to training provided by the state and by employers.

The government's move, suggested in confidential documents prepared for today's quarterly meeting of the National Economic Development Council, will be supported by employers, but it is likely to be criticised by unions and some training agencies as a further move from state-provided training.

At present, individuals and the government spend roughly equal sums on training, with employers providing about as much as the two other sources combined. However, Michael Howard, the employment secretary, in the employment department's unpublished paper for today's meeting of

the NEDC, the forum bringing together representatives of government, industry and unions to discuss the economy, is promoting the idea that individuals' contributions to their own training should be increased.

The government's system of training credits, under which young people will "spend" vouchers on training, is part of this thinking, and the Confederation of British Industry, in its confidential paper to the NEDC, says that there is promising scope for extending the principle to some adults, especially those now in higher education.

As part of that, the CBI suggests incentives for individuals' training, including a £1,000 personal tax allowance for study towards a nationally-recognised qualification. The CBI says that because

of recession, "1991 will be a difficult year in which to promote investment in people". The employers say that unlike in the last recession, when training budgets were among the first to go, lowered staffing levels have reduced the need to cut training to contain costs, but that "funding will only be available where the contribution of training to better performance can be demonstrated".

The TUC, in its NEDC document, advocates a new training strategy to remedy the under-training of the British workforce. It calls for rights to training for all employees, a strategic National Training Authority, legally-established workplace training committees and more representative and active versions of the government's training and enterprise councils.

Girl held by police over baby death

A schoolgirl was being questioned by police yesterday after a baby, aged 18 months, was found dead in his cot at his home in Blyth, Northumberland, on Sunday night.

The body of Sean Graham was discovered by his mother, Karen, aged 22, when she returned home after leaving her son with babysitters.

Man jailed for fake tours

A travel agent was jailed for tricking German students into paying for a fictitious tour of England, including dinner with a "peer" at his "castle". Paul Ndekwe, aged 27, of Marylebone, central London, pleaded guilty to dishonestly obtaining about £700 by deception. He was jailed for nine months, with six months suspended, and ordered to pay £700 compensation.

Meningitis death

A baby aged three months died of meningitis yesterday morning, hours after being admitted to Leighton hospital, Cwre. The boy is the fourth youngster to have died from the disease in Cheshire in three weeks. County health chiefs say the deaths are unconnected.

House stabbing

A former High Sheriff of Bedfordshire was stabbed yesterday morning after he disturbed burglars at his home in Luton. Bill Powers, aged 66, underwent surgery at Luton and Dunstable hospital but is not in a serious condition.

Water needs

Lincolnshire needs at least ten inches of rain by April if it is to avoid a summer drought, the National Rivers Authority said yesterday, the same day as Bristol Water Company lifted its hosepipe ban.

Police stress

Dyfed Powys police authority has recruited Relate counsellors to treat policemen suffering from stress after six officers resigned last year from stress-related illnesses.

Driller killed

Philip Knight, aged 56, of Keinton Mandeville, Somerset, was killed yesterday after being entangled in drilling equipment while working on a landfill site at Willenhall, West Midlands.

Lost millionaire

Irish Lottery officials are trying to trace a £1 million jackpot winner who, they believe, may be in the Irish Republic. The winning ticket — 11,14,24,32,34,35 — was bought an hour before the draw near Ballybofey, Co Donegal.

Arts Council blamed for theatre's plight

By SIMON TAIT, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

ONE of the oldest repertory theatres in Britain, Liverpool Playhouse, has been brought to the brink of collapse as a result of the Arts Council's funding policy, its administrative director said yesterday.

The High Court has appointed an administrator to try to rescue the theatre, which owes £600,000. "One must question the validity of an Arts Council policy — dedicated to encouraging the arts — whose insistence on parity with local authority funding leads us to this," John Stalker said.

Anthony Everett, secretary-general of the Arts Council, said it was "particularly regrettable that this should have happened when constructive discussions are taking place with Liverpool city

council". Frank Taylor, the insolvency expert who rescued Tranmere Rovers from receivership in 1987, has three months to save the theatre.

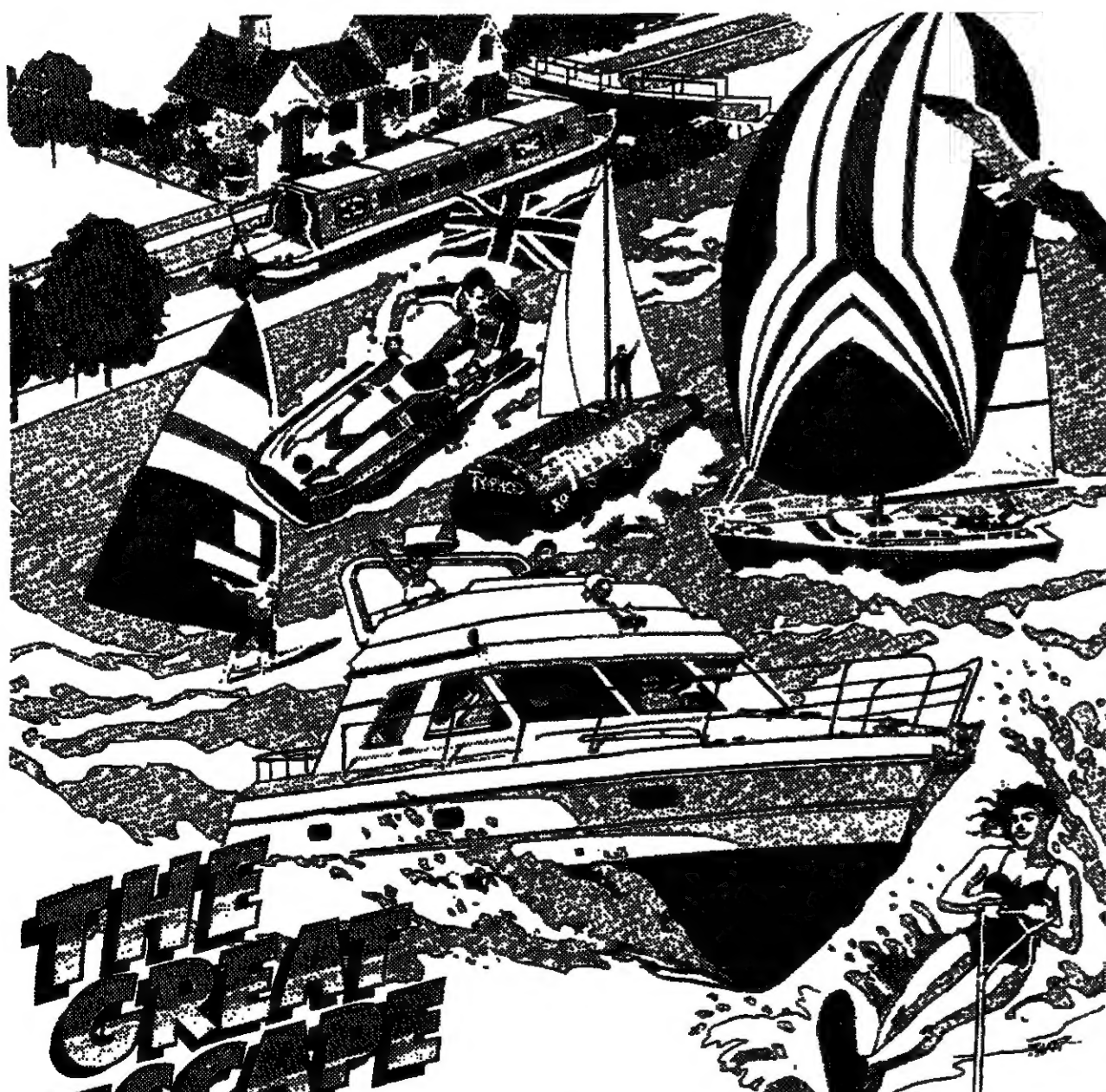
The biggest creditor is the National Westminster Bank, which is owed £575,000. "The bank have been very supportive but have told us that with this kind of debt we are effectively insolvent," Mr Stalker said.

The Arts Council's grant to the theatre, which is due to celebrate its eightieth anniversary in April, has been cut by £218,000 since 1988. The council was due to reduce the grant even more next year but it decided to wait while negotiations with the city council continued. The council gives the theatre £527,300, and £88,000 is provided by

local authorities, including £30,000 from the city council.

When David Mellor, then arts minister, announced next year's arts budget two months ago, he singled out Liverpool for criticism. His successor, Tim Renton, has called on local authorities to fund the arts more generously. Mr Stalker said, however, that there had been no effective arts funding policy in Liverpool since the Merseyside metropolitan council was abolished in 1986.

"We are only the first of a number of theatres facing this situation," he said. "Bristol, Sheffield and Newcastle cannot be far behind. Regional theatre feels extremely let down by the Arts Council and there is not a major city in England that isn't affected."



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فكرنا من الأصل

Moment of truth nears for troubled Pravda and Le Monde

TWO of the world's most famous newspapers were in difficulties yesterday, with *Pravda* facing bankruptcy and the great French institution, *Le Monde*, at the pinnacle of a power struggle.

In Moscow, *Pravda* could go bankrupt within six months, while leading Soviet magazines face closure as the cost of paper rockets and the foreign exchange reserves dry up.

The grim picture emerged yesterday at a news conference held by the Soviet state's top producers, distributors and consumers of paper, who at times could barely maintain a facade of politeness to one another.

Between them they told a story of chaos and dislocation. The

warning of financial failure for *Pravda* and the other leading dailies in its stable came from Vyacheslav Leonov, director of the Communist Party's newspaper publishing division. He said bankruptcy was inevitable by June or July unless the paper price, devalued since October, was limited to 800 roubles (£800) per metric ton. Suppliers were now demanding 1,300 or even 1,700 roubles.

In Paris, meanwhile, an end to the protracted power struggle at *Le Monde* was in sight last night as the 275 journalists with shares in France's most influential newspaper voted on another nomination for the post of director.

Failure to deliver a sufficient

Bruce Clark in Moscow and Philip Jacobson in Paris examine the problems facing two of the most renowned and influential newspapers in Europe

majority for Jacques Lesourne, aged 62, an economist and computer consultant, would deal a severe blow to staff morale, as the standard-bearer of French quality journalism prepares for a particularly hard year.

The recent decision of *Le Monde's* immensely respected director, André Fontaine, to stand down brought into focus the cherished right of editorial staff to nominate their own man — a

woman director, one imagines, is not yet a serious proposition in Rue Falguère — or to reject the choice of other shareholders.

It seemed plain sailing at first, with M Fontaine's chosen successor, the managing editor, Daniel Vernet, heading off the challenge of two senior colleagues to secure the support of journalist shareholders and their 32.3 per cent stake in the newspaper. Because M Fontaine and other editorial executives

control another 16 per cent of the shares, M Vernet could surely look forward to victory.

But that was counting without the growing concern of the non-journalist shareholders about a looming financial crisis that they felt demands more professional management. Despite turning an operating profit of about £5 million last year on daily sales of about 400,000, *Le Monde* dropped seriously into the red. A troubled move to a new printing plant in what its loftier Parisian readers would consider the wilds of suburbia and the early impact of a projected slump in advertising revenue did most of the damage.

When M Vernet came up for formal consideration a month ago,

he fell well short of the 75 per cent overall support required. While many of the journalists complained, there was grudging recognition that preserving *Le Monde's* traditions of independence from government influence — most of the time — and an editorial style that makes few concessions to "readability" will require a more stable financial structure in the tough times ahead.

For M Lesourne, head-hunted by *Le Monde's* management after a tangle through top business circles, the most immediate challenge was to convince journalists that he would maintain the qualities that made the newspaper an essential prop for intellectuals.

In Moscow, meanwhile, closure

is facing periodicals ranging from *Ogonyok*, the trail-blazing liberal weekly, to more staid titles like *Working Peasant Woman*.

These publications, which only by Soviet standards could be described as glossy, rely on imported newsprint, dyes and printing equipment for which the necessary hard currency is no longer available.

Igor Sankin, deputy minister for the wood and pulp industry, explained that if soaring paper costs represented one end of a chain, plunging supplies of timber marked the beginning.

The wood shortage threatened to disrupt coal mining and the railways as well as the paper industry, Mr Sankin warned.

Challenge to Soviet defence bill sharpens budget clash

FROM MARY DEJEVSKY IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT Gorbachev had a three-hour meeting with the Russian Federation leader, Boris Yeltsin, yesterday in a fresh attempt to reach agreement on a central Soviet budget for 1991.

The meeting took place as parliamentary deputies, assembling for the first time since the new year break, challenged projected defence spending for 1991. This shows an increase of more than one-quarter in rouble spending, compared with 1990.

At dispute between Russia and the central Soviet authorities is 27 billion roubles (£27 billion), or a quarter of the republic's total contribution as requested by the centre.

Last Friday it emerged that

Russia had agreed to pay more than 50 billion roubles on top of its first offer of 23.4 billion roubles, in return for changes in the structure of payments. These include acknowledgement of the Russian government's right to dispose of most internal tax revenues raised on the territory of the Russian Federation.

The rethinking necessitated by Russia's rebellion on the central budget became apparent yesterday, when the Soviet parliament received provisional figures for next year. They include a sharp decrease in central revenue from a tax on enterprise profits, and the introduction of a new category: republic contributions to national programmes.

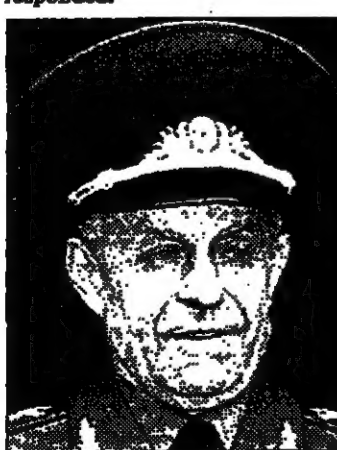
The figure of 96 billion roubles given for defence spending in 1991 prompted difficult questions for Viktor Kucherenko, the chairman of the budget commission. The first problem was the shaving of only two billion from a total which parliament had queried as excessive on the first reading of the budget bill last month.

How was it, several deputies asked, that the Soviet Union was claiming a reduction in defence spending of 15 per cent when the figures showed a large increase — from 77 to 96 billion roubles?

Mr Kucherenko said the 1991 figure was equivalent to 70 billion roubles in old pricing; the increase amounted to indexation. He did not explain why military spending should be indexed differently from all other spending.

Marshal Sergei Akhromeyev, retired Soviet chief of general staff and now a military adviser to President Gorbachev, then walked to the rostrum and offered parliament a full breakdown of the military budget. This did not calm some deputies.

Parliament, one said, should have the right to review defence spending, as the US Congress did. "The budget committee is not competent to review military expenditure," Mr Kucherenko responded.



Akhromeyev: speech failed to convince deputies

£1bn cash printed by Serbia to pay debts

FROM RICHARD BASSETT AND DELLA TREVISAN IN BELGRADE

THE Yugoslav government has accused Serbia of undermining the country's monetary system and jeopardising the federal programme of economic reforms after it emerged that the republic illegally printed currency with a face value of almost £1 billion to prop up its bankrupt economy.

The fraud, the biggest Yugoslav financial scandal in recent years, has occurred as Belgrade tries desperately to impose strict monetary controls. Irregularities were discovered last week when Yugoslav federal bank officials gave a warning to Ante Markovic, the Yugoslav prime minister, that Serbia had borrowed 2.6 billion German marks. The discovery has provoked uproar in the other five republics, with Serbia accused of "plundering the common federal kitty". The revelations have reinforced suspicions that Serbia was assisted by someone in the federal bank, since the republic "borrowed" the money in secret. The amount was half the sum allocated by the bank for all of Yugoslavia this year.

The money appears to have been spent in Serbia on salaries in bankrupt industries, paying peasants for farm produce, and financing pensions — attempts to buy peace and votes as Serbia increased salaries on the eve of last month's elections. Though this policy has given temporary respite, the outlook is for a disastrous new period of inflation and falling living standards nationally.



Crowd control: Marie Joseph, aged 19, is shielded from an angry mob of demonstrators by a burly Miami policeman after she had announced, in the city's Little Haiti district, that she supported the Haitian coup leader, Roger Lafontant. They had stripped her of her blouse and attacked with bottles and

broken glass. In Port-au-Prince, the Haitian capital, the death toll in the coup attempt reached at least 40 yesterday (Reuters reports). Some of the dead were Tonton Macoute, the Duvalier regime's secret police, and others were supporters of Father Jean-Bertrand Aristide, who takes over as

president next month after victory in last month's elections. The coup attempt lasted only about nine hours, until the military stormed the presidential palace, where Dr Lafontant, an interior minister under Claude "Baby Doc" Duvalier, had taken control. Army leaders said he would face civilian trial.

ANC urges all-party talks on constitution

FROM GAVIN BELL IN JOHANNESBURG

A YEAR ago Nelson Mandela was an enigmatic figure observing the first cracks in apartheid from the shadows of a prison warder's house in the western Cape. Today he is the foreman of a black nationalist demolition crew determined to finish the job before another year passes.

The remarkable transformation in the fortunes of Mr Mandela and the African National Congress was apparent at a press conference yesterday marking the seventy-ninth anniversary of the founding of the organisation.

Far from the impotent railing against white supremacy of the past, the talk was of all-party conferences, constituent assemblies and other mechanisms for achieving non-racial democracy.

Traces of revolutionary rhetoric persisted in a statement by the ANC national executive, which described the reform process as a victory for the oppressed masses in a heroic struggle against the tyranny of apartheid.

That said, the statement reaffirmed the commitment of the ANC to negotiations with a broad spectrum of constituencies, and proposed an all-party congress to draw up a framework for drafting a new constitution and for governing the country during the transition period. The idea of a multiparty forum accords with government plans and appears to be an attempt to wrest the initiative from Pretoria, but at least both sides are moving in the

same direction. Mr Mandela, comfortable in his new role as elder statesman, indicated willingness to discuss who should chair the congress. "That question is to be negotiated, but in many respects our ideas are similar," he declared.

Arguably the most telling feature of the press conference, however, was Mr Mandela's demeanour. Despite sharp exchanges with Pretoria in recent months, he appeared relaxed and optimistic about reaching a settlement.

Mr Mandela also announced that Oliver Tambo, the ANC president, was prepared to meet Mangosuthu Buthelezi, the leader of the Zulu-based Inkatha Freedom party, to discuss ways of ending chronic violence between supporters of the two organisations. It remains to be seen whether that will satisfy Chief Buthelezi, who has been insisting on meeting Mr Mandela.

The Zulu leader expressed reservations yesterday about the ANC's terms for an all-party congress, describing them as a step towards "winner-takes-all" power. Chief Buthelezi said that his party favoured a broad-based conference, but it opposed ANC demands for a constituent assembly and an interim government. "The ANC sees itself as being the major player in this assembly, and thereafter in the interim government it proposes... is this democracy at work?"

Evacuation flights to Mogadishu stop

FROM AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE IN NAIROBI

FIGHTING in Somalia between rebels and government troops halted the evacuation of foreigners from Mogadishu, the capital, yesterday, where President Siad Barre's regime appears doomed. Rescue flights from the Kenyan port of Mombasa by two Italian Hercules C130 transport planes, which evacuated 248 people on Monday, were called off yesterday. They were to try again today.

A French naval vessel off the Somali coast managed to take aboard 47 foreigners, diplomats said. Around 100 foreigners remained in the capital. The rebels claimed on Monday that they controlled most of Mogadishu and

that victory was only hours away. But government forces were still holding the airport, the port and the president's official residence, according to Renato Volpini, the Italian ambassador in Nairobi, who is in regular contact with his colleague in Mogadishu.

Abdullahi Daib, a Somali businessman who flew out on Monday, said government troops had ransacked the American embassy in Mogadishu after it was evacuated. A state department spokesman in Washington said attackers had used rocket-propelled grenades. Mr Daib said they were lying in the streets, and families were fleeing on foot.

Silver lining to rise in German jobless

Bonn — The number of unemployed in both parts of Germany rose last month as more people from the east "commuted" to work across the old internal border, competing for jobs at lower wages than workers in the west have grown to expect (Ian Murray writes).

Nevertheless, the figures showed that average unemployment in the west over the whole of last year stayed below two million for the first time since 1982 and that there are now more people at work than ever before.

In the east, despite the expected rapid growth in the dole queues, about 124,000 new jobs have been created since the economies of the old East and West Germanies were merged in July. The number out of work in the west grew by more than 100,000 during December to a total of 1,784,000, or 6.8 per cent.

Food aid arrives

Nairobi — A United Nations ship carrying food for northern Ethiopia has arrived safely in the Eritrean rebel-held port of Massawa in the first phase of a plan to reopen a vital famine relief route to save the lives of four million people hit by drought. (Reuters)

Ashes released

Warsaw — The United States state department has allowed the return of the ashes of the statesman and pianist, Ignacy Paderewski, to Poland. Paderewski died while touring America in June 1941. His will expressed his wish that he be buried only in a free Poland. (AP)

More charges

Dhaka — Hussain Muhammad Ershad, the former Bangladesh president already charged with possessing illegal firearms, now faces charges of embezzling state funds and amassing wealth disproportionate to his known income.

Peking travel lure

Peking — China's capital has proclaimed 1992 a "golden year of travel" to try to win back tourists who went elsewhere after the bloody suppression of pro-democracy protests in 1989. (Reuters)

Peasants march to halt Gujarat dam

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

MORE than 5,000 peasants and tribal Indians have reached the eastern state of Gujarat after a long protest march against a huge dam project that many believe will become one of India's greatest planned environmental disasters.

Headed by a sickly group of hunger strikers, the demonstrators have been met on the Gujarat-Madhya Pradesh border by thousands of armed police dispatched by the Gujarat state government. Despite opposition by environmental groups in India, Britain, the United States and Japan, the project is forging ahead with substantial aid from the World Bank.

The demonstrators have been marching for the past week in bitter cold to the sound of flutes, drums and conch shells. Under the restive gaze of police they are chanting slogans and singing songs against further construction of the 460ft-high dam across the Narmada river. This will be the biggest of Narmada dams on the Narmada which, together with some smaller dams, will constitute the Sardar Sarovar project, one of the world's biggest water schemes.

A Narmada dam was first mooted in 1947, but the final go-ahead came only three years

ago in a seemingly hurried decision by Rajiv Gandhi, then prime minister. Many ministers of the present government say privately that it will be an environmental catastrophe, involving a massive upheaval of people and the destruction of millions of trees and hundreds of sizeable villages.

Maneka Gandhi, minister of state for the environment and India's leading Green, called the project a defeat for India. But she held out no prospect of ending work on the dam, which is already well advanced, saying the biggest challenge now was to minimise the damage and ensure the proper rehabilitation of people affected.

MORE than 250,000 acres of land, mostly in Madhya Pradesh, will be submerged. Nearly half of it is covered by forest. An estimated 300,000 tribal people will have to move.

Proponents claim the scheme will irrigate about four million acres of barren land in eastern Madhya Pradesh and northern Gujarat, as well as generate enough power to increase electricity supplies significantly in several states. Electrification of villages is a big vote-catcher, which is doubtless why the

Gujarat state government supports the Narmada project so unreservedly. But many environmental groups in India and abroad have challenged the official estimates of the dam's supposed benefits.

While an army of men and machinery continue work on the project, the environment ministry in Delhi is preparing new appraisal reports on the dam's impact. Mrs Gandhi said the scheme was opposed by the ministry's scientists and its appraisal committee. She expressed exasperation that despite high-level opposition, the project was continuing. "It is symptomatic of so many things that happen in this country," she said.

Rumours have spread in recent days that the government would suspend work on the dam pending further studies. Chimanbhai Patel, the Gujarat chief minister, said he had personally contacted Chandra Shekhar, the prime minister, and had been told that the reports were incorrect. "The stage for reviews has long since passed," he added.

He claimed that 7,000 villages — 2,000 more than previous estimates — would get water from the project. He defended the use of police to halt the protest march.

Gujarat had already invested 10,000 million rupees (£294 million) and the project was being monitored by the World Bank.

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Brave show of solidarity as Baker meets Mitterrand

From PHILIP JACOBSON IN PARIS

IN A brave effort to reassert the unity and common purpose of French and American diplomacy, the two sides declared solidarity over their objectives in the Gulf yesterday.

After 90 minutes of talks with President Mitterrand at the Elysée Palace, James Baker, the American Secretary of State, told journalists of "absolute, total and complete agreement" between the two governments.

Clearly responding to persistent reports of fundamental differences with France over Gulf policy, Mr Baker said that his discussions with M Mitterrand and the French foreign minister, Roland Dumas, had been extremely helpful "and hopelessly productive".

Both governments were fully agreed that there could be no negotiations with Iraq, Mr Baker added, also offering the view that there could be no question of establishing any link between Baghdad's immediate and unconditional retreat from Kuwait and "other questions".

Since French strategy appears to be to offer President Saddam Hussein the plum of "linkage" between Iraqi withdrawal and an eventual international conference on wider Middle East issues — above all, the Palestinian question — M Dumas's response was awaited with interest. Pointing out that

France has long favoured such a conference, he emphasised that the "respective positions" of France and America on the matter in no way detracted from their present solidarity in the Gulf.

With that, Mr Baker hurried off for a final round of whistle-stop diplomacy in Italy and Germany before today's meeting with Tariq Aziz in Geneva.

Despite a bravura effort to smooth over the present differences with France, some observers felt that, for all the reassuring talk of unity, he had not been utterly convincing.

That impression was strengthened by yesterday's pointed observations from the French parliamentarian, Michel Vauzelle, whose "independent" trip to see Saddam in Baghdad last weekend is generally considered to have been an Elysée-sponsored mission. If there is no progress in the American-Iraqi talks in Geneva, he argued, a "Franco-Arab" peace initiative should be undertaken.

With the weight of his lengthy discussions with Saddam behind him, M Vauzelle maintained that it was essential to discover whether the Iraqis consider Kuwait to be a bargaining counter or territory to be held for ever. "We must not go to war without being absolutely certain that every possible solution has been explored."

M Vauzelle, a trusted confidant of M Mitterrand, also touched on aspects of French policy that senior officials in Paris believe are still misunderstood — or misrepresented — in America and Britain.

"France", he said, "has maintained an impeccable attitude in this crisis since it began. Having condemned Iraq, it then sent troops to give teeth to that policy... France has the right to use its diplomatic influence in an effort to find a peaceful solution, right up to January 15."

In private, French officials argue that Britain's apparent willingness to follow every American lead on Gulf strategy has distorted

Bonn urges US to find diplomatic solution

From IAN MURRAY IN BONN

IN TOP-level meetings here yesterday, James Baker, the American Secretary of State, was urged to seek a peaceful solution to the Gulf conflict when he sees Tariq Aziz, the Iraqi foreign minister, in Geneva today.

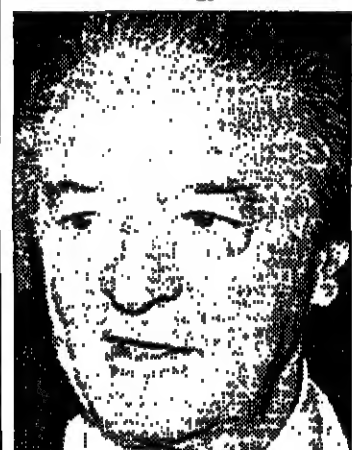
Both Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, and Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the foreign minister, told him that while Bonn fully supported United Nations resolutions calling for Iraq to leave Kuwait, they believed that diplomacy rather than force was the better way of achieving this.

The Geneva meeting was "the last, best chance for a peaceful solution", Mr Baker told them. "Naturally we all want a peaceful political solution before midnight on January 15."

While sticking to the date laid down by the UN for an Iraqi withdrawal, Mr Baker said there would not be a war automatically when the deadline was reached. The UN resolution said that force was allowed after that date, but it was not compulsory. His reassurances that war was not inevitable were aimed at a German audience. There is no popular support for the use of force, particularly now that Luftwaffe jets have been sent to Turkey.

Hans-Jochen Vogel, leader of the opposition Social Democrats who have strongly criticised this move, said yesterday he had been promised by the government that the Luftwaffe would not be sent into battle without a discussion in the Bundestag.

Despite their arguments for peace, the German leaders were firmly told by Mr Baker that the surest way of making President Saddam Hussein understand that he had to leave Kuwait was to preserve a united coalition against him, fully prepared to go to war after January 15 if need be. "Probably the only kind of diplomacy Iraq believes in is backed by a gun barrel," one American aide commented.



Dumas: spoke of differences, but put emphasis on unity

the response of the European Community to the affair. From the start, they say, France made clear its view that the United Nations and not the Bush administration should be the engine of the international community's approach.

Nothing better sums up that attitude, combining recent history and Gallic self-esteem, than M Mitterrand's barbed comment before Mr Baker's latest visit. "I respect Mr Bush, but I do not feel myself to be in the position of a second-class private obliged to obey his commander-in-chief."

● **Peace pledge:** The prime minister, Michel Rocard, said yesterday that no country had worked harder for peace than France, and that no country continued to seek peace with more energy. In a rare public statement on the Gulf confrontation, M Rocard added: "We will continue to do everything in our power to prevent violence being unleashed."

Peter Stothard, page 6
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Hand of friendship: James Baker, the US Secretary of State, extending his hand to President Mitterrand of France at the start of their talks in the Elysée Palace in Paris yesterday. They discussed the chances of a peaceful solution to the Gulf confrontation before Mr Baker's meeting with the Iraqi foreign minister in Geneva today

Concessions are there to be taken despite the fiery words of war

Against a background of unrelenting determination not to budge, how can Gulf compromise be achieved? Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent, examines options

THE rhetoric of the two sides in the lead-up to today's meeting in Geneva between James Baker, the American Secretary of State, and Tariq Aziz, the Iraqi foreign minister, would appear to shut the door on any thought of a compromise to prevent a war.

How can Mr Baker offer concessions to Baghdad when the United States is committed, like the other members of the UN Security Council, to a total, uncompromising withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait? And how can President Saddam Hussein be seen to back down in Geneva when he has stated to the world that he will never leave Kuwait?

In recent weeks, as the American force levels have increased to 430,000 and the Iraqi military presence in Kuwait and southern Iraq has risen to more than 500,000, the focus of attention has inevitably switched to the likelihood of a war. Brinkmanship on the scale practised by Saddam leaves little room for talk of compromise and diplomacy.

Yet even Saddam, with his ambitions of leading the Arab world like some modern-day emperor, must have concluded that the war option will not give him

what he wants. He does not need Mr Baker to tell him that an attack by American and allied forces will destroy him, his regime and his military arsenal.

This is why it should be possible to build on the concessions already "on the landscape", as one senior American diplomat put it, to produce a peaceful formula. But, first, the Iraqis must withdraw from Kuwait.

Although it has been forgotten in all the talk of war, the Americans made it clear some time ago that they would not attack Iraq if troops were withdrawn from Kuwait; that negotiations could then be held between Kuwait and Iraq on Baghdad's territorial claims, including the Gulf islands of Bubiyan and Warbah; and that after an Iraqi withdrawal, the Palestinian issue could be addressed "expeditiously and effectively", including the setting up of a Middle East

conference at an appropriate time. Judging from accounts given by some of the senior foreign envoys who have seen Saddam in recent weeks, he privately wishes to avoid war, in spite of his persistently bellicose public statements. But he is afraid he will lose too much face if he orders his troops out of Kuwait, merely on the vague promise that negotiations could follow on leasing or buying the two Gulf islands and that the Palestinian question could be given more priority by the international community at some time in the near future.

The Iraqi leader undoubtedly would also want Kuwait to forget about a multi-billion-dollar debt incurred during the Iran-Iraq war and any reparation for the plundering of the country by Iraqi soldiers. Reconstruction of Kuwait could cost as much as \$40 billion (£21 billion), according to some Kuwaiti officials. Kuwait's

Flexibility is key to attack as clock ticks towards deadline

By MICHAEL EVANS

DEADLINES now play a vital part in the Gulf confrontation: the January 15 deadline imposed by the United Nations Security Council for the withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait, the deadlines for the operational readiness of allied forces, and even weather deadlines.

The objective of Washington in persuading its coalition of allies to support the inclusion of a deadline in the last UN security council resolution, implicitly sanctioning the use of force, was to compel President Saddam Hussein to Iraq to make up his mind. Did he want a war, or would he instead settle for peace?

The deadline has publicly failed so far to move the Iraqi leader. His rhetoric has become, if anything, even more warlike. But it has succeeded in concentrating the minds of the allied forces lined up against Iraq.

The military units in the Gulf, especially the Americans, British, Saudis and Kuwaitis, have always accepted that the Iraqis would have to be forced out of Kuwait.

But until the deadline of January 15 was agreed by the security council, there was no clear guid-

ance on when an offensive might be launched. In the early stages of the build-up, it was linked in military minds to weather conditions or religious festivals.

No one expected an attack to be ordered during the Islamic fasting period of Ramadan, for example, or in June when Muslims arrive from countries all over the world to make their pilgrimage to the holy cities of Mecca and Medina in Saudi Arabia.

Until the decision by President Bush to reinforce the American military presence in the Gulf with another 150,000 troops, mid-November was the favourite date for an allied offensive.

Now, because of changing assessments of Iraqi capabilities and concern among American commanders that a land offensive could not be launched until the ratio of allied forces to Iraqi units had changed dramatically, even the January 15 deadline cannot be seen as the signal for an imminent offensive.

In spite of reassuring comments over the weekend from General Norman Schwarzkopf, commander of the American forces in the Gulf, that his troops were ready

for an attack, it appears that the US army and naval reinforcements will not all be combat-ready until next month. An attack is therefore more likely before the end of February, not in the final two weeks of January after the UN deadline.

If, therefore, Saddam decided to begin withdrawing his troops at the end of this month, there is every likelihood that an allied offensive would be put on hold, and finally abandoned if every Iraqi soldier returned home.

The January 15 deadline was a diplomatic ultimatum, not a declaration of war. However, if Saddam is to be convinced that the deadline is also a warning, allied forces ahead will need to make a number of highly provocative moves in the next weeks, including the positioning of units closer to the Kuwaiti border and an intensification of offensive training.

As General Schwarzkopf's personal deadline for war approaches, the Americans will also be expected to mount a psychological operation, calling on Iraqi troops to surrender before the outbreak of war.

Crown Prince and prime minister, Sheikh Saad al-Sabah, has insisted that the international economic embargo should not be lifted until Iraq pays damages for plundering the emirate.

The issue of Iraq's access to the Gulf via the islands of Bubiyan and Warbah is probably critical to any diplomatic solution. But could Kuwait, the other Gulf states and Iran, let alone Washington, be happy to allow Iraq to boost its maritime power? The Iraqis are already developing the barren Bubiyan island. A causeway is being built to the mainland in the north.

Control of Bubiyan and Warbah was one of several issues Iraq raised with Kuwait in angry discussions in the months leading up to the August 2 invasion, as well as the dispute over drilling rights in Kuwait's Rumaila oilfield, which straddles the border between Iraq and Kuwait.

Saddam would probably go along with the return of the emir and his government to Kuwait, if he could get his hands on Bubiyan. For the island commands Kuwait City, giving the Iraqis effective military control of the country unless there are very restrictive conditions under which Baghdad is allowed to leave Bubiyan.

If the Geneva meeting or subsequent diplomatic efforts persuade Saddam to withdraw, there are some crucial, additional concessions which will be demanded from Iraq, the principal one concerning the country's nuclear weapons programme.

The present international safeguards, agreed under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, are not sufficiently embracing to forestall Baghdad's nuclear ambitions. A proposal is now under discussion to create a special regional inspection regime that would not focus only on Iraq but would have to include all countries in the Middle East. Since Israel would have to be part of this mutual inspection process, the proposed framework is likely to meet stiff opposition.



Aziz: handicapped by his master's brinkmanship

Twelve UN steps to use of force

From JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

THE United Nations Security Council has adopted 12 resolutions against Iraq since the invasion of Kuwait on August 2, culminating in approval of the use of force if there is no Iraqi withdrawal by January 15.

□ August 2, resolution 660 The 15-nation council condemned the invasion and demanded that Baghdad withdraw its forces and begin negotiations.

□ August 6, resolution 661 An embargo was imposed on all trade with Iraq except for medicine and humanitarian food supplies.

□ August 9, resolution 662 The council voted unanimously to declare Iraq's purported annexation of Kuwait null and void.

□ August 18, resolution 664 A further unanimous vote to demand that Iraq allow all foreigners to leave Iraq and Kuwait and rescind its order to close diplomatic missions in Kuwait.

□ August 25, resolution 665 The council authorised member states to impose a naval blockade on Iraq and Kuwait by using "measures commensurate to the specific circumstances" to ensure compliance with sanctions.

□ September 13, resolution 666 Pressed by India, the council authorised humanitarian food shipments but only if they were distributed through international aid agencies.

□ September 16, resolution 667 The council unanimously condemned Iraq's nuclear ambitions. A proposal is now under discussion to create a special regional inspection regime that would not focus only on Iraq but would have to include all countries in the Middle East. Since Israel would have to be part of this mutual inspection process, the proposed framework is likely to meet stiff opposition.

□ September 24, resolution 669 A unanimous council vote entrusted its sanctions committee with making recommendations on economic assistance to other nations affected by the embargo.

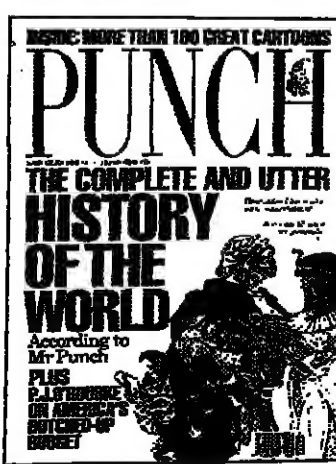
□ September 25, resolution 670 The council banned all cargo flights to Iraq except those exempt under UN sanctions, and called on states to detain Iraqi-flagged ships which had been breaking sanctions when they entered port.

□ October 29, resolution 674 The security council demanded that Iraq desist from taking hostages and oppressing Kuwait. It asked states to document such evidence, and the UN secretary-general to undertake peace efforts.

□ November 28, resolution 677 The council asked the secretary-general to keep safe a smuggled copy of Kuwait's pre-invasion population register.

□ November 29, resolution 678 Approval was given by the council for "use of all necessary means" to drive Iraq from Kuwait if it failed to withdraw by January 15.

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Church leaders to make peace appeal to Hurd

By RUTH GLEDHILL
RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS REPORTER

SENIOR churchmen will lead a delegation today to see Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, to represent their serious concern at the prospect of war in the Gulf.

The Rev Keith Clements, co-ordinating secretary for international affairs for the Council of Churches for Britain and Ireland, said: "We are concerned for the future of all people living in the Gulf, Christians and those of other faiths. That will be one of the points we want to raise with Mr Hurd. Our concern has been strongly reinforced by what we have heard from Middle East churches about what the consequences of war would be. As they see it, a war — and particularly a war of such horrendous scale as seems likely — would simply add to and deepen the crisis of relationships in the Middle East."

The churches' delegation, led by the

Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich, the Right Rev John Dennis, will reaffirm calls for all possible peaceful avenues to be explored before resorting to war, and will voice concerns for the fate of Christians in the Middle East.

The visit comes in the wake of statements calling for peace from church leaders, theologians and ecumenical bodies.

The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Westminster, Cardinal Basil Hume, in a letter to Chris Patten, chairman of the Conservative party and a Roman Catholic, called on the government to pursue every opportunity for a diplomatic solution. He said that military action should be used only as a last resort.

The Rev Robert Beresford, of the Roman Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, said: "My predominant concern is that United Nations objectives are achieved by peaceful means, if that is at all

possible. Everything should be done to support peaceful methods of achieving justice."

Catholic bishops urged all Catholic churches to say prayers for peace with justice at Masses on Sunday. Where possible, churches are asked to have one Mass for peace.

The Anglican Bishop of Oxford, the Right Rev Richard Harries, called for all Christians to set aside some time next Tuesday, the United Nations deadline, to pray for peace. The bishop, who has been joined in his appeal by other church leaders from Oxfordshire, Berkshire and Buckinghamshire, urged local churches to make time for special acts of prayer and worship during the day. A spokesman for the bishop said: "Many will make a special effort to keep their churches open, especially during lunchtime, and many will be ringing their bells to summon people to prayer. Some

Christians may wish to observe an element of fasting."

Rabbi John Rayner, chairman of the Council of Reform and Liberal Rabbis, issued a statement signed by 34 rabbis supporting economic sanctions and continued diplomatic initiatives and urged resistance to any attempt to link the conflict with the Israeli-Palestinian issue.

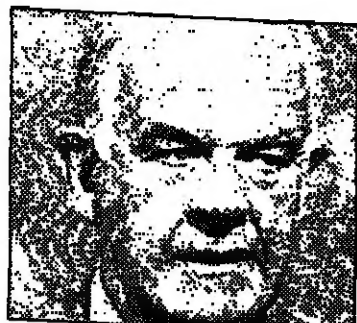
"While we earnestly hope and pray that war will be averted, nevertheless, if the most strenuous efforts to resolve the crisis fail, we believe it would then be right for Great Britain, in co-operation with other nations, to assert the will of the UN by the appropriate use of force."

The Salvation Army is to send four officers with two mobile canteens to the Gulf to serve the British forces. They will be flown out on the first available RAF flight.

Letters, page 9

هكذا من الأصل

White House retreat for Bush to plan his strategy



Foley: too late to challenge the president's policy



Dole: predicting narrow majority in Congress

ONE week before the January 15 deadline, and with Congress tomorrow beginning its first full-scale debate since 1941 on whether to send US troops to battle, President Bush has cut to the bone his public schedule and retreated to the west wing of the White House to concentrate almost exclusively on crisis management.

That task includes the intensive wooing of congressmen in a bid to ensure that the country goes to war united.

Polls are showing an upswing in popular support for using force against Iraq after January 15, and the consensus is that Mr Bush will probably now get the congressional authorisation he seeks, even though most Democrats want more time for sanctions.

Congress is an entity almost as enigmatic and unpredictable as Saddam Hussein, but both Tom Foley, the Democratic House Speaker, and Robert Dole, the Republican minority leader of the Senate, are predicting narrow majorities for such a resolution.

Democrats may want time for sanctions to work, Martin Fletcher reports from Washington, but George Bush can take heart from the latest polls backing force

There is a feeling that having put off a debate for so many weeks, Congress has left it too late to exert its will and challenge the President's policy, especially if today's Geneva meeting between James Baker, the Secretary of State, and Tariq Aziz, the Iraqi foreign minister, proves fruitless.

Congressmen returned from their districts on January 3 to regale the press with tales of constituents dead set against military intervention.

Bernie Sanders of Vermont said he had had four town meetings and had "a very difficult time finding anyone who supports the president's position". From the other side of the continent Jim McDermott of Washington state reported: "I don't find anyone who wants to go in".

But all the polls since then have told the opposite story. The Washington Post reports 63 per cent support for using force from January 15, up eight points since December. USA Today 58 per cent and Newsweek 61 per cent. The Post poll also showed 68 per cent thought Congress should more actively support the President.

The last thing most congressmen want to do is find themselves on the wrong side of such a momentous issue. The danger for the White House is that congressmen, hoping to hedge their bets, will support the use of force but attach conditions. Amendments cannot be limited. Any number are presently floating around, including proposals to make the president certify that sanctions

are not working before going to war and to demand that Mr Bush return for specific congressional authorisation at the moment when he finally decides to use force.

With diplomacy almost exhausted, White House officials are no longer so concerned that the debates may send mixed messages to Baghdad. "The single most important thing at the end of the day is to have no language limiting the president's ability to act," said one.

Another subject of growing concern to the administration is the threat of widespread terrorist attacks in the event of war.

It was disclosed yesterday that the FBI has greatly intensified intelligence-gathering activities involving Iraqis and other Arab groups in the US and has stepped up its scrutiny of Iraqis arriving in the United States.

A particular worry is that the Iraqis may use the thousands of seized Kuwaiti passports to infiltrate terrorists into the US. The state department has also

revealed that US diplomats have spotted suspicious people studying their homes, tracking their movements and filming their embassies with video cameras from passing cars. There had been "repeated examples of planning for terrorist activity, including surveillance of potential American targets," said a spokesman, adding that Iraq's public threats of attacks on American targets in the event of war were being treated very seriously.

A report in the Wall Street Journal claimed that police in countries across the world were planning raids on suspected pro-Iraqi terrorist cells that they had had under surveillance for months.

Defection denial: The Saudi Arabian defence minister yesterday denied reports that Iraqi defectors had flown six helicopters out of Kuwait on Monday night, even though the Pentagon had initially confirmed those reports. Yesterday the Pentagon said it had been unable to obtain independent confirmation.

Airlines fly home tourists and staff

AS CIVILIAN airlines became further embroiled in the developing Gulf confrontation, airlines began returning staff and tourists from resorts in the conflict zone and on routes flying over the region (Harvey Elliott writes).

Air Europe is to bring back about 250 tourists on holidays booked through its tour operating partners, Intasun and Select, in both Penang and Goa. They also plan to bring back couriers and engineers.

Other airlines, such as British Airways, are planning to scrap services to any city which could conceivably be within range of Iraqi missiles.

The scramble for seats gathered pace in recent days after Western countries advised their nationals to leave the Gulf region and Israel well before January 15. Gulf Air, Saudi Arabian Airlines and British Airways had temporarily laid on extra flights from Bahrain to Europe, India and Egypt, compensating for cancellations by Qantas, Pan Am and Cathay Pacific.

Moscow condemns US for boarding Soviet arms ship

FROM MARY DELEVSKY IN MOSCOW

THE united front between Moscow and Washington, which has remained solid since the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, appeared threatened last night when Moscow issued a public condemnation of the United States for detaining a Soviet cargo ship in the Red Sea.

The ship, the Dmitri Furmanov, was detained and boarded by a joint US-Spanish inspection team on January 4. It was bound for the Red Sea port of Aden.

The incident, which was kept secret until yesterday apparently by agreement of both sides, became public on the eve of talks in Geneva

between the US Secretary of State, James Baker, and the Iraqi foreign minister, Tariq Aziz. The Soviet decision to make the incident public is bound to be seen as a sign that Moscow's resolve may be weakening as the January 15 deadline approaches and will be linked by some with the resignation of Eduard Shevardnadze last month.

According to the Soviet statement issued by the ministry of external economic relations, but distributed by the foreign ministry, the Dmitri Furmanov was detained by the Spanish and US navies in the Gulf of Aden on January 4 and boarded. The

boarding party inspected the ship's cargo, amounting to "106 tonnes of military spare parts and components for delivery to the Kingdom of Jordan under an inter-governmental agreement between the Soviet Union and Jordan."

The statement referred also to "11 boxes found in an insulated compartment", but did not say what they contained, insisting that they were accompanied by "all the necessary documents".

Although the statement said that the boarding party had been able to inspect the ship unhindered and had found no undeclared cargo, it indicated that the captain and crew had refused to co-operate. "During the search, the crew were held for 10 hours in the officers' mess under guard of Spanish sailors. The inspection was conducted without the participation of the ship's officers," it said.

The Soviet statement made clear that the detention of the Dmitri Furmanov was at least the second time a Soviet ship had been inspected by US naval forces in the Gulf region. "Even though the American side recently acknowledged that its action in relation to the Soviet ship, the Nikolai Savitskiy, was unjustified," it concluded, "it has made another attempt to cast aspersions on Soviet compliance with UN Resolution No 661."

"The Soviet side is authorised to state again that neither the cargo on board nor the ship's route violate the resolution, and it regards this incident as action directed against the commercial activity of the Soviet merchant navy."

US diplomatic sources in Moscow appeared surprised by the sharpness of the Soviet statement. There was speculation, and some hope, that it might have been an indication on the part of less experienced officials at the Soviet foreign ministry's information department.

There is bound to be concern, however, that the move results from a decision by a part, or all, of the Soviet leadership to distance itself from the US as the prospect of military action draws closer.

WASHINGTON: Pentagon sources confirmed that secret caches of weapons had been discovered on board the Dmitri Furmanov on January 4 (Peter Stothard writes). The cargo included rocket launchers, detonators, explosives, tank parts and command-and-control equipment, some of which "was not on the manifest", officials said.



Out of Israel: Ulrika Laett, from Gothenburg, Sweden, and her Israeli husband at Ben Gurion airport as she waits for the last Scandinavian airways flight out of Jerusalem. Her husband is staying in Israel. With the multinational force poised to launch an

offensive to drive Iraqi troops from Kuwait, the Israeli armed forces have been put on alert and foreigners are fleeing the country (AFP reports). All flights leaving Israel were full on Sunday, an airport source said. Several foreign airlines have reduced

services to Tel Aviv. On Monday the Israeli army started to complete its distribution of gas masks to the civilian population. The defence ministry, which has already issued some 3.5 million masks, said the army would now distribute a million more.

Complaint over reporters' visas

The Newspaper Publishers' Association last night called on the prime minister to "use his influence" to persuade both the ministry of defence and the Saudi authorities to grant visas to allow every newspaper two correspondents in the Gulf.

The newspapers lodged a complaint against the MoD in a letter to John Major over the ministry's failure to guarantee even one visa per newspaper. Leading article, page 9

Arabs deported

Jerusalem - Israel deported four Palestinian members of the Islamic fundamentalist organisation, Hamas, saying they had incited violence against Jews. Western diplomats described the timing of these first such deportations since 1989 as unfortunate.

Swedish aid

Stockholm - Neutral Sweden has responded to a British request for humanitarian aid for the Gulf force. Ingvar Carlsson, the prime minister, said that Sweden would send a military medical unit.

Palestinians have 'nothing to lose'

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN JERUSALEM

KAMAL Hassuna, a leading Arab businessman in Hebron on the occupied West Bank, said: "You must understand, our people are in despair. If war comes and Palestinians fight for Saddam Hussein, by intensifying the uprising against Israel, it will be because they have nothing to lose."

Palestinians are waiting for the outcome of today's talks in Geneva with apprehension. The same Arab youths who fill the streets of Gaza and West Bank towns waving portraits of President Saddam Hussein, also admit they fear being caught up in the catastrophe of war. "If Iraq fires chemical weapons at Israel, we too will be killed or injured," one Hebron youth said.

Some Palestinians have been alarmed by Israeli announcements that there are insufficient supplies of gas masks for the inhabitants of the occupied territories.

But the dominant mood is one of excitement at the thought that war could turn the Middle East upside down. "Anything is better than perpetual occupation," Khalid, an Arab journalist, said. A favourite Palestinian chant runs: "O Saddam, the beloved, please bomb Tel Aviv; O Saddam, the brave, bomb it with chemical weapons."

According to Said Kanaan, a leading figure in Nablus, Palestinian support for Saddam in the event of war "will find its expression in increasing acts of violence".

He added: "Most Palestinians are hoping for war

because, if Saddam Hussein is victorious, a solution to the Palestinian problem will be closer, and if he is defeated there will be a revolution of Arab peoples against their leaders. This will create a political atmosphere favourable to the Palestinians. Our enemy is the status quo."

The underground leadership of the intifada has called on Palestinians to open a "second front" by hampering any Israeli war effort through mass demonstrations and acts of terrorism. That, the leadership hopes, would pin down much of the Israeli Army.



Abu Abbas, top, and Abu Iyad, leading members of the PLO, listening to Yassir Arafat in Baghdad

closing the deal. At another embassy a bored-looking secretary sat atop a 3ft-high plastic bag of diplomatic confetti as she fed more routine consular business into the shredder.

"It's not much fun any more, because all the good stuff's been done," she said, adding that "the good stuff" had been chewed up into little pieces just after Iraq's invasion of Kuwait last August 2.

Meanwhile, Izzat Ibrahim, the vice-chairman of Iraq's Revolution Command Council and the number two man in the leadership, to Tehran for several days of high-level talks with the Iranian leaders. The Ministry of Health has announced that, as of now, all hospital patients not considered critically ill are to be refused admission to the country's 525 hospitals, in order to prepare for potential war casualties.

There is bound to be concern, however, that the move results from a decision by a part, or all, of the Soviet leadership to distance itself from the US as the prospect of military action draws closer.

WASHINGTON: Pentagon sources confirmed that secret caches of weapons had been discovered on board the Dmitri Furmanov on January 4 (Peter Stothard writes). The cargo included rocket launchers, detonators, explosives, tank parts and command-and-control equipment, some of which "was not on the manifest", officials said.

Israel and Jordan 'risk war in hours'

By RICHARD OWEN

ISRAELI officials yesterday predicted that an Israeli-Jordanian war could erupt "within hours" if Israel were dragged into a Gulf conflict.

A rift was developing between Iraq and Jordan, Israeli sources said. Co-operation had suffered after Jordan allegedly supplied America with "sensitive military material", according to the Israeli newspaper Haaretz.

Many Jordanians suspect hawkish Israeli leaders such as Ariel Sharon, the former general, would try to take advantage of war chaos to occupy the East Bank of the Jordan, expelling Palestinians from the West Bank and making Jordan a Palestinian state.

David Levy, the Israeli foreign minister, said yesterday that America would have achieved nothing if it forced Iraq out of Kuwait but failed "to remove the Iraqi threat to the region". He proposed the dismantling of its nuclear capability under international supervision, combined with the imposition of buffer zones. Without such constraints, Mr Levy said, Western forces might have to stay in the region "for a generation".

Shredders busy ahead of envoys' exodus

FROM JOHN HOLLAND IN BAGHDAD

DIPLOMATIC missions yesterday were shredding the last essential documents and tying up the last of their diplomatic pouches in preparation for a hasty evacuation from Iraq, if the United States-Iraq talks in Geneva today fail to slow the drum-beat of war.

Western journalists were also to be advised soon on a possible evacuation with Iraqi government assistance in the event that hostilities appeared imminent. A row of white off-road vehicles were tanked up and ready to roll in one embassy parking lot, while a number of embassy diplomats spent their day getting permits from the Iraqi foreign ministry to leave the country, either by land or air.

There was a question as to whether foreigners could travel more than 25 miles outside Baghdad without govern-

ment approval. Another concern was over the rumoured closure of Iraqi airspace starting from January 10, a rumour as yet unconfirmed. But others believed that delegates to an Islamic conference which opened today and finishes on the 11th would presumably be allowed to leave.

"No one is interested in the Ramadi option," said one Western diplomat, who was referring to a recent offer by the Iraqis to move Western diplomats and journalists to Ramadi, the Iraqi resort which is 65 miles west of the capital and was used by the government and diplomats as a retreat during the eight-year war with Iran.

One European embassy official was in the process of selling his Japanese-made car to an Arab colleague, telling the buyer to have patience until Thursday before

closing the deal. At another embassy a bored-looking secretary sat atop a 3ft-high plastic bag of diplomatic confetti as she fed more routine consular business into the shredder.

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Martin Jacques

Class issues that matter

Last year, education made an extraordinary ascent up the electoral agenda. At the same time the mood on education turned against the government; towards the end of Mrs Thatcher's reign, one opinion poll had the Tories running some 29 points behind Labour on education. In response, one of Mr Major's priorities in his first few weeks has been to impart a different emphasis to the government's rhetoric on education, to lessen talk of market forces and underline support for the state system and the role of teachers.

But the shift in public perceptions of education is driven by much more than the party-political debate. The concern runs deeper than any manifesto can express. Sir Claus Moser, in his address to the British Association for the Advancement of Science last August, came closer than anyone so far to articulating the public anxiety when he drew attention to the historic weakness of our educational system and called for a royal commission.

Two factors are now giving a quite different bite to the educational debate. The first is the dawning recognition that the relationship between education and the economy will change markedly. The old division of labour — for instance between mental and manual labour and between skilled and unskilled — is a growing handicap. Flexible skills are increasingly at a premium. The second factor is the growing awareness of Britain's educational deficit compared with our European rivals.

The Thatcher years did little to tackle the underlying problems, indeed for the most part they were exacerbated. On the positive side, some key problems were identified: low standards, the quality of teaching, the lack of accountability of teachers, and the need for a common framework in the form of a national curriculum. But most of the solutions have been ill-conceived.

It is one thing to establish that the quality and lack of accountability of the teaching profession are problems, another altogether to demoralise teachers by constant verbal attacks and allowing salaries to sink to a disgracefully low level. Research published last week suggests that teachers are now the most depressed of all occupational groups, with an estimated one in three drinking to excess. Furthermore, spending on education, as a proportion of gross domestic product, was allowed to fall from 5.5 per cent in 1980-1 to 4.9 per cent in 1987-8, rather less than in most of our rival nations. Finally, the government schemes to promote opting out are serving to exacerbate the chief weakness of our educational system — division and hierarchy.

...and moreover

CRAIG BROWN

The recent publication of the Collected Letters of the impresario William "Bill" Board sheds fascinating light on the ups and downs of the theatrical calling.

Board first made his name as an expert in the art of topping and tailing lukewarm reviews for public presentation. In his hands, even the dullest review could be turned into a full-blooded rave with a discreet cut here and a few dots there.

Alas, the talent that was his making was also to prove his undoing. Witness Bill Board's reply to this letter from his bank manager at the end of last year, in response to his plan to launch another Two West End musicals — *Power! The Life and Amazing Times of Sir Norman Fowler* and *Gazza the Musical*, starring Robert Hardy in the title role. In late December, his bank manager had written:

"Dear Mr Board, I am afraid I must refuse all requests for more money for your forthcoming projects. Yours faithfully, W.P. Binns." Ordinary people might have regarded this as a firm refusal, but Board's reply reveals his optimism undimmed: "Dear Mr Binns, Thank you for your encouraging letter in which you state 'ALL... MONEY... FORTHCOMING'. I take pleasure in enclosing two seats for the first nights. When would you like to hand over the money? With very best wishes, W. Board."

By return of post, Mr Binns makes it clear that his earlier letter has been subject to misinterpretation: "Dear Mr Board, At no time have I suggested that you would be receiving any money. I would not like you to think that I have. For the present, my bank is stopping all further loans to you. Yours faithfully, W.P. Binns."

But Board had not been 30 years a theatrical impresario for nothing. "Dear Binns, NO TIME... LIKE... THE PRESENT! Excellent news! On the strength of this firm promise of finance for my next two productions, I have initiated a third, *Verses*, a musical for all the family based on the best-selling

Examples of this are legion, but two stand out. This country's private educational sector is far more important and influential than in most comparable countries: as a result, what might be — and in many countries are — some of the most powerful pressure groups for improving the state system (including even the Conservative cabinet) have no direct interest in it. Then, within the state system, there is the longstanding gulf between vocational and academic education. It is this that is under increasing scrutiny.

The key problem is among those aged 16-18. The staying-on rate, which here is a mere 35 per cent of the age-group, compares miserably with that in similar countries. Those who continue take but a handful of highly academic A-levels, while the majority are cast into (or choose) work or second-class vocational training. In the light of economic and technological change, such distinctions between the academic and the vocational are increasingly inappropriate.

A further problem is that the present system is driven not by the interests of the majority, but by that small academic minority which takes A-levels in the hope of entering higher education. Yet there is growing evidence that what will matter is not so much this small minority as the quality of education received by a much broader swathe.

These divisions, moreover, contribute towards one of the most intractable problems facing any major advance in the level of educational achievement. English society in particular remains deeply antipathetic to the educational ethic. School is largely regarded as something that should be left behind as soon as possible, and intellectuals are still regarded with suspicion. Such attitudes are rooted deep in our history. But an educational system which has long been driven by the interests of a small minority is bound to leave the majority alienated, dissatisfied and resentful.

Despite much debate and enormous changes, the last decade failed to tackle many of the underlying problems in education. What is required is a new consensus around the need for a higher proportion of GDP to be spent on education; a high-status, well-paid but strictly accountable teaching profession; new tertiary colleges for those aged 16-18 organised around a new academic/vocational qualification like the baccalaureate and designed to attract the majority of the age group; and much more opportunity for adults to re-enter the educational system when they so wish. Pie in the sky? Maybe, but the trend of thinking is going this way. Mr Major and Mr Clarke could come sorely to regret much of Mr Baker's Act.

What is there left to talk about?

As America braces for war, Peter Stothard, US editor, sets the scene for today's Baker-Tariq Aziz meeting

In a world where summit meetings have become commonplace and national leaders negotiate directly over the telephone like bond-dealers, today's talks in Geneva between James Baker and Tariq Aziz are like something out of diplomatic history. The stakes are as high as at any international forum since the Cuban missile crisis. But the participants are ambassadors, not plenipotentiaries.

Each will have a preconceived plan, produced in his capital and containing the mixture of stubbornness and surprise that his leader judges appropriate. Utterly absent is any measure of trust or even the secure mutual knowledge upon which trust is built. Tariq Aziz is an apparently western figure who is said even to share Mr Baker's commitment to the Christian faith. But behind the well-modulated English and the well-cut suits is a man whose life history is mysterious. And behind Mr Aziz is Saddam Hussein, whose character is that of either a martyr or a calculating automaton, depending upon which expert one believes.

The preparations for this meeting hardly seem part of the drama of the T-72 tank and the Stealth fighter. As one congressional observer put it yesterday, "The two

men might as well be ancient Athenians meeting an embassy from the king of Persia." Expectations are accordingly low. Although a critical part of the globe is threatened by imminent and unprecedented catastrophe, rival predictions about the course of today's talks are barely above the level of those before a world boxing championship.

Some officials in Washington see a long, stinging debate; others, a quick flurry of fists and an Iraqi walk-out. The smart talk is about the terms for a ceasefire, but this prospect is weakening. Americans have gradually realised that this ill-starred encounter may be the last opportunity for words to pass directly between Baghdad and Washington before the exchanges turn to bombs, shells and blistering diatribes.

The Secretary of State, James Baker, famous for pulling rabbits out of hats, has made no promises of magic this time. He is merely the messenger-boy, he says, charged with letting Iraq know that America is prepared to meet violence with violence to free

Kuwait. His officials guess that the surprise elements in Tariq Aziz's briefcase will include an Iraqi promise for a staged withdrawal with strings attached, a demand for further meetings in Baghdad and even the threat of some deterrent "superweapon" that may or may not exist.

But Mr Baker's job, at most, is to decide whether or not Mr Aziz is telling the truth, either in his concessions or his threats. Whatever his instincts to negotiate may tell him, he knows that back in Washington is a president whose patience and credulity are low. In Congress there are dark whispers that this diplomatic impasse was what George Bush wanted all along: that the drawn-out wranglings over dates and times for direct talks with Saddam Hussein were a charade, designed only to fill the time between the passing of the UN resolution to use force and the deadline for his taking office.

There is anger among congressional leaders about the way Operation Desert Shield has been handled by the White House, and some of that anger is certain to

emerge during the war powers debates which begin tomorrow. But even in those Capitol Hill offices where opposition to the president's policy is highest, there is a sense that the Rubicon has already been crossed. Congress has missed its opportunity to place its weight decisively in the scales of compromise, and the levers of peace and war are, at least for the immediate future, out of its hands.

One of the most influential members of the House of Representatives is Les Aspin, a Wisconsin Democrat who chairs the armed services committee. Yesterday he set out his best picture of a diplomatic solution, invoking the spirits of Kennedy and Khrushchev in 1962 to back his idea of a secret concession to Saddam along the lines of the American agreement to withdraw missiles from Turkey in exchange for those withdrawn from Cuba. Mr Aspin also suggested that Mr Baker tell Mr Aziz about American plans to quicken the pace of the Arab-Israeli peace process, and that he float ideas of American-backed arbitration of borders. The White

House is by now politely contemptuous of such clever hopes in Congress.

The president will probably send a resolution to Congress this week asking it to support his belligerent stance if the UN deadline is not met. The Aspin plan, typical of those being offered, is not only unpincipled, in Mr Bush's eyes, but is vulnerable because its terms might well be leaked.

Mr Aspin's last suggestion — that "the anti-Iraq coalition must remain together in order to contain Saddam Hussein" — is the most unrealistic of all. Messrs Bush and Baker know better than anyone how fragile is the international accord they built by their own painstaking diplomacy last year.

America now senses the worst. Through the 24-hour output of Cable News Network and in the piling up of mail in the White House, new waves of anger and fear are coursing the nation. More than 80 per cent of the population now see a likelihood of fighting, according to a poll in *Newsweek* magazine. More than 60 per cent support American military force to drive Iraq from Kuwait.

The blasts of war are blowing hard, and barring some diplomatic miracle, Washington believes that war will come.

Quality airs on a shoestring

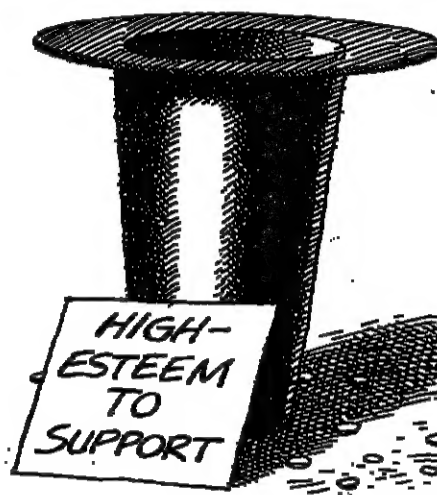
Surveying the latest opera funding row, Richard Morrison, arts editor, believes a choice must soon be made between the regional companies, however excellent, and metropolitan glitter

What strange midwinter madness grips the Arts Council when it has to deal with regional opera companies? In December 1989 it decided, in circumstances that are still murky, not to continue subsidising Kent Opera. Consequently, one of Britain's most admired small opera companies went into immediate liquidation. That reduced substantially the opportunities to see professional opera in southern England.

One year on, the Arts Council has behaved cavalierly towards a much bigger client, Welsh National Opera — possibly threatening its existence, if one takes the opera management at its word. At first sight the trouble appears to stem from the ill-conceived and hastily executed "enhancement fund". Whatever else it has enhanced, this £7.5 million way of passing extra money to certain arts organisations has not enhanced the Arts Council's reputation. The WNO management claims it was "led to expect" an additional sum from the enhancement fund of about £300,000. In the event, it was given £175,000, and that must be carved out of the Welsh Arts Council's allocation. Since seven in every ten WNO performances are in England, the decision is illogical at least.

As with the axing of Kent Opera, there are rumours of high-powered lobbyings and last-minute changes of mind. The Welsh contention is that when David Mellor was arts minister, no enhancement money was to go to the Royal Opera House, but that his successor, Tim Renton, acceded to lobbying and diverted WNO's share to Covent Garden. We shall probably never know.

There is no reason, however, why every Arts Council decision should not be open to scrutiny by



taxpayers in full possession of the facts. It is not as though national security is at risk. Yet a mantle of secrecy usually descends upon Arts Council reasoning, like a cloud concealing the events on Mount Olympus from mortals' gaze.

That is just one of the larger issues raised by this particular wrangle. Two other basic tenets of arts-funding philosophy appear to have been mislaid in recent months. One concerns the extraordinary boom in opera appreciation in England, the decision is illogical at least. The British public has developed an appetite for high-quality opera that would have been inconceivable 30 years ago. Not all of this is due to the efforts of companies such as WNO, of course. Pavarotti, *The Ring* on television and *Carmen* at Earl's Court have helped. But the regional companies must be given much of the credit. Are we now going to curtail this belated enthusiasm?

The second tenet is the commitment that was made so encouragingly back in 1984, in the Arts

Council's *Glory of the Garden* report: a commitment not to treat audiences in the regions as second-class citizens, but to ensure they receive their proper share of the cultural groceries. Yes, lip service is paid to that all the time. Yet, the tortuous progress towards the devolution of most arts funding to the regions is in the *Glory of the Garden* spirit. But the Arts Council's commitment to regional arts growth will ultimately be judged on how it treats regional clients such as WNO.

For here is a company that has achieved the highest standards. Recall the Peter Stein productions of *Otello* and *Falstaff*, the gripping theatricality of Joachim Herz's and André Engel's stagings, the astonishing company spirit that enabled WNO to mount *The Ring*. Recall, too, that this is a company that has just spearheaded the UK festival in Tokyo. For only six WNO performances, the Japanese were prepared to pay £2.4 million. WNO has succeeded in spite of

the handicap of playing in some of the most makeshift, cramped and oldest theatres in Britain. And it has succeeded on shoe-string budgets, shattering the myth that to have quality opera, it is necessary to pay famous singers a small fortune. At WNO some singers receive as little as £300 a performance for taking a large role — less than a tenth of the comparable fee at Covent Garden. The British knack of surviving in the face of adversity is surely epitomised by WNO's history. That does not mean that we should keep piling on the adversity. Once again it is necessary to remind the Arts Council to reward success, not failure.

WNO's success also offers a lesson to other opera companies on the virtues of canny management. Time after time, it has been first off the mark in identifying a budding talent, the string of superb directors it has engaged from central Europe is an obvious instance. There have been seasons, particularly in the early

1980s before English National Opera hit its winning stride, when WNO productions set the tone of the critical debate about opera in Britain.

Now the company should be preparing to play an even bigger role in Welsh culture. Redevelopment of the Cardiff Bay area holds out a promise of an equally large cultural renaissance for the city. Some plans have already been outlined in *The Times*: the commitment to spend 1 per cent of the total expenditure on "public art", for instance. Other ideas, such as the plan for a new opera house, will depend upon cooperation between public bodies and private developers. There must be trust that the financing of key elements (and WNO must be a key element) will not dry up.

These are all matters that the Arts Council should consider as it begins negotiations with WNO. Yesterday's preparatory discussion produced only a commitment to further meetings.

But a larger problem looms, one that will need a more radical solution. It is not likely that the amount of public money devoted to opera subsidy will increase substantially: there are too many competing cultural claims on the public purse. Yet if all this opera subsidy were rolled together and given to just one client, the Royal Opera, then that company would be almost, but not quite, able to compete with Milan, Vienna and Paris on equal terms. In other words, the cost of running an international opera house, locked into the star system and inflexible union agreements, is out of all proportion to the number of taxpayers that will benefit from attending its performances.

If, on the other hand, none of that money were given to the Royal Opera, and all were distributed to ENO and the regional opera companies, we would probably be renouncing forever the chance to hear international stars like Pavarotti, Domingo, and Te Kanawa live on a British operatic stage. But we would be able to fund the other companies adequately. The choice is tough, but British opera-goers can probably no longer have it both ways.

Martyrs to our arts policy?

A valuable old master which could now be hanging in the National Gallery has been lost to the nation because the Treasury has refused to accept it in lieu of death duties from the Rothschild family.

"The Martyrdom of Bartholomew" valued at £7.5 million, has been described as the finest painting by the 17th-century Spanish master Ribera in any private collection in Britain. Now it is on its way to America.

When sold at Sotheby's to the National Gallery of Art in Washington at the end of last year, the government's Office of Arts and Libraries was so alarmed that it refused to issue an export licence for two months to give the nation a chance to acquire the work.

Lord Rothschild, chairman of the National Gallery's trustees, met the arts minister, Tim Renton, and suggested that the executors of his aunt Dolly's estate should buy the painting and give it to the nation in lieu of inheritance tax. The Museums and Galleries Commission submitted its own detailed case why the application should be accepted: the arts world enthusiastically supported the scheme, and with the former arts minister David Mellor having gone on to the Treasury, confidence was high that the rescue plan would be rubber-stamped despite the fact that Rothschild had previously been rebuffed on a similar proposal to save "The Three Graces".

To the surprise of all involved, the government has rejected the scheme. A spokesman for Renton said yesterday: "The acceptance-in-lieu scheme exists to prevent

the sale of works of art and possible export when an estate which is property-rich but cash-poor is faced with tax liabilities." Dolly Rothschild apparently did not come into this category.

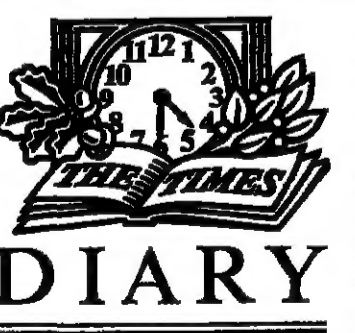
A disappointed spokesman for the National Gallery says: "We would have loved to have had the painting, but we were unable to make an offer of our own."

Art historian Sir Denis Mahon, who was a trustee of the National Gallery for 16 years, is even more forthright. "It is a disgrace that this magnificent painting has been allowed to leave Britain. Lord Rothschild stood to gain nothing from this public-spirited gesture which was perfectly legitimate within the framework of the legislation."

Whatever the Brussels reaction, the latest hard-core proposals unveiled yesterday by the Chancellor, Norman Lamont, have gone down well with Chelsea chocolatier *Rococo*, which has been selling 100g chocolate discs with great success. "They are definitely of the hard variety and were a bestseller over Christmas," says a spokesman for the shop. "Don't tell Jacques Delors, but we are importing them from France."

Clubbable canines

As the summer holiday brochures multiply, the question of what to do with the dog while roasting in Benidorm becomes pressing. For those who do not fancy consigning their pets to solitary confinement in kennels, help is at hand with the opening of the first country club for dogs. Opening a "complete home-from-home environment" including "a well-appointed clubroom, cool north-facing terrace and summer



evening barbecues", the Feather-bed Country Club is choosy about the animals it accepts, putting all prospective members through a rigorous — or — vetting procedure, including a trial stay.

Once a privileged pet has been accepted, its holiday is then cap-



tured on video by Bill Eykyn, who runs the club at Little Missenden, Buckinghamshire. The video, with added voice-over and mood music, is presented to the owner at the end of the pet's stay. "We capture them fooling about in the courtyard, snoozing in the clubroom, chasing around the parkland, romping on the terrace and tucking into their grub," says Eykyn.

It sounds far more enticing than

a six-hour wait at Luton airport and two weeks on the Costa with a bunch of lager louts. Do they accept owners as well?

French singer Edith Piaf was fascinated by spiritualism and never performed without having bastinado her cherished seance table. "It's a little round table," she said. "It follows me everywhere I go. My chauffeur transports it." These remarks from Piaf, who died in 1963, have not been conveyed from beyond the grave. They are in a new book about the woman they called the Little Sparrow and are quoted in the latest *Psychic News*.

Tradition first

In keeping with a 160-year-old tradition, John Major has accepted an invitation to become a member of the Carlton club, bastion of the Tory establishment and haunt of cabinet ministers.

Every leader of the Tory party since Sir Robert Peel in 1832 has accepted an invitation to become an honorary member, including Mrs Thatcher, the only exception to the men-only rule.

Major's acceptance of the invitation, issued by Lord Whitelaw, the chairman, was delivered by hand yesterday, presumably prompted by speculation in the morning papers that he was about to refuse. His letter said he was "honoured and delighted" to accept.

Robert Linsley, the club secretary, says: "We are thrilled. This maintains an important tradition in the club's long history."

Meanwhile work continues apace on repairing the damage caused by the IRA bomb last summer. Two dining rooms have reopened, but the grand staircase, the morning room, the main entrance hall and half the base-

ment remain out of bounds. The work should be completed in May, when it is hoped there will be a grand reopening ceremony. Will Major do the honours? Linsley will only say: "I am sure he will get an invitation to attend."

Dahl and the dull

The list of approved books for seven-year-olds, issued by Tim Eggar, the education minister, and the league table published today of the children's books borrowed most frequently from public libraries highlight the chasm between what grown-ups think children should read and what children prefer.

Only four of the books on Eggar's list of more than 50 recommended for the national curriculum are popular enough with young readers to be included in the Public Lending Right breakdown of titles borrowed from the nation's libraries in the year ending June 1990.

Rosald Dahl, Enid Blyton and René Goscinny (who wrote the *Asterix* books) are at the top of the PLR list, but none of their books are included in the government's recommendations. Only Allan Ahlberg's *Miss Jump the Jockey*, Shirley Hughes's *Alfie Gets In First*, David McPhail's *Where Can an Elephant Hide?* and Jill Murphy's *Peter at Last* are to be found in both lists.

Next year the two lists are likely to converge as middle-class parents buy or borrow the approved books for private coaching before the national curriculum tests. The government has asked parents to be on their honour not to do so, an appeal that will probably be as effective as trusting a seven-year-old not to touch an open bag of sweets.



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Calls for prayer and wisdom as Gulf deadline looms

Work pressures at Westminster

RAIL SAFETY FIRST

MORE OPENLY TO WAR

The press suspicion is that the restrictions owe more to British institutional sloth than to the Saudi passion for secrecy. Accordingly, the Newspaper Publishers' Association is writing to the prime minister and the

Building abuses

Looking at London

Fisheries policy

lar number of houses to the smaller number of

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number - (071) 782 5046.

Boundary reform

General for Fisheries,
EC Commission),
15 Princess Beatrix Close,
Norwich, Norfolk.
January 4.

From Mrs Renée Short

Legal aid work

VEST **EY**, Chairman,
Cheltenham Racecourse,
Prestbury Park,
Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.
January 7.

An official shoulder to cry on

Yesterday's rail crash at Cannon Street has brought renewed calls for a central body to direct psychological help for survivors and relatives after a disaster. Lin Jenkins reports

Last summer, three and a half years after the Herald of Free Enterprise capsized with the loss of 192 lives, a lorry driver who had been among the survivors committed suicide. No record remains of the terror and guilt he suffered after escaping, blinded by darkness and water, from the wreckage of the ferry, leaving others behind.

The incident is one of the most poignant among many which two months ago prompted survivors of disasters and relatives of the victims to set up their own charity, Disaster Action UK, to co-ordinate long-term psychological help for those affected.

Those whose lives have been distorted by horrors such as the Bradford football ground fire, the inferno of the Piper Alpha oil platform and King's Cross underground station, or the Clapham train crash, understand the complex reactions which the doctors have labelled post-traumatic stress disorder.

While counselling and psychiatric help are available after such disasters, the approach is often piecemeal and many people are left to suffer alone.

Andrew Parker, aged 37, who stretched his 6ft 3in frame across a water-filled chasm to provide a bridge for 20 trapped passengers on the Herald of Free Enterprise, later developed symptoms for which he knew he needed help. He is critical of the help offered to him initially, and says that once his physical injuries had been treated in Belgium, he and his wife, Eleanor, were sent home, bereft of further assistance.

"Basically, there was nothing to start with," he says. "Then the Herald Assistance Unit was set up and they endeavoured to contact people. They were fairly useful but after three months they ran out of money."

"People could use either the private or public sector, but there was no overall co-ordination. We were fortunate in that our GP listened, but we know of lots of others who were dismissed by their doctor as not having a problem."

Mr Parker, a former police officer now employed by a Japanese bank, was awarded the George Medal for

his heroism in the disaster. He was fortunate in having the services of Commander Dr Morgan O'Connell, of the Royal Navy, one of Britain's experts in post-traumatic stress disorder. Mr Parker's former position in the police meant he could attend a month's intensive residential course which, he says, was "very helpful", but it was not open to his wife. It was partly because of experiences such as his that the new charity has been formed. "It is both to lobby Parliament and business to make sure safety standards are given the priority they should have, and secondly, to give continuing psychological backing," he says.

Maurice de Rohan, who lost his daughter in the Herald of Free Enterprise, is the chairman of the charity and of the Herald Families Association. "The question of counselling is a very vexed area," he says. "It is difficult for associations such as ours to get involved because of the lack of readily available help. There is no co-ordination of where people can go for help."

Dr Jim Swire, who lost his daughter in the Lockerbie bombing, is severely critical of the initial help offered to relatives of disaster victims. He, like all the other relatives of those who died at Lockerbie, was barred from seeing his child's body or learning the full extent of how she died. The explanation given was that this would pose a security risk.

"One of the most ghastly things was that we were deliberately prevented from seeing the body," he says. "Social workers were sent to Lockerbie, but their initial attempts to offer help were largely unsuccessful, although some of those who needed help were later seen elsewhere."

Many people in the medical profession believe that such criticism is justified. One of the few benefits to come from such a catalogue of death and sadness is that local health authorities are now beginning to lay plans in the event of a major disaster.

Dr Gary Jackson, a psychiatrist and research fellow at London's Middlesex Hospital stress clinic, which began a three-year research project into the handling of post-traumatic stress disorder after the King's Cross fire, believes work at



Not over yet: Zeebrugge hero Andrew Parker (with his wife, and George Medal) knew he needed help

the centre may provide a blueprint for future tragedies.

He has counselled those from the Marchioness sinking on the Thames, King's Cross, the Clapham rail crash, Lockerbie, Hillsborough football stadium and Zeebrugge, as well as those who have experienced the trauma of muggings.

Dr Jackson says sufferers experience one or more of the following symptoms: intensive recollection of the event, avoidance of reminders of it and behavioural changes. "All surviving victims and some relatives of the deceased suffer some of these things for some time. The

important thing is to let people know that there is help available," he says.

The victims of the Cannon Street train crash yesterday will be the first to benefit from this view. All those who go to hospital will be followed up and offered counselling. Most of the "walking wounded" will be invited back within the next two days to be assessed for the risk of psychological consequences. "Most people are very reticent and believe they can cope on their own, but they cannot," Dr Jackson says.

The stress clinic does not hold group therapy sessions, although some associations formed by survivors and relatives, in particular after the Marchioness sinking, have arranged such treatment and fully support it. People can also refer themselves to units such as the Middlesex Hospital stress clinic.

Those involved in stress counselling feel there will be a great need for their help after Cannon Street and Disaster Action UK is ready to give its wealth of experience. "It is a shame," Mr Parker says, "that those of us who have already suffered have been the first to see the need and do something about it."

Frank N Stein's unfriendly face?

In chasing late-payers, utility companies are under fire for not separating the 'cannots' from the 'will nots'

BRITAIN'S gas and electricity companies, no longer protected by government monopolies, are increasingly eager to present an acceptable face to their customers, according to Professor Stephen Littlechild, the director-general of Electricity Supply at the Office of Electricity Regulation (Ofreg).

Some customers are surprised, though, to find that the "acceptable face" may demand security deposits from those considered persistent late-payers. The electricity suppliers' right to demand a "reasonable" security deposit was enshrined in the 1989 Electricity Act. But the National Consumer Council (NCC), which says it first learnt that the companies were charging security deposits towards the end of last year, is against the custom. "We knew they had the powers but we

two days' notice. London Electricity customers are asked to put up a security payment" of £100 if, on two consecutive quarters, they fail to pay after receiving their second reminder. If the customer then pays the bills on time, the deposit is returned between 12 and 18 months later, together with interest.

Barbara Montoute, a Merseyside fuel rights adviser and the vice-chairman of the National Right to Fuel Campaign, says that one of her objections to security deposits, which she also regards as "late-payment fines, is that you can't possibly distinguish between who can and won't pay and those who can't." She believes that the electricity companies have only recently been implementing their deposit policies.

In the gas industry, security deposits (about £100 and paid with interest when returned) seem less of a problem. The Gas Consumers Council (GCC) received 87 complaints about them between January and November last year out of a total of 19,500, compared with 112 the previous year. A GCC spokesman said: "British Gas is behaving a lot more reasonably about security deposits. In the early years of privatisation it was a frequent cause of complaint."

Out of the 10,000 formal complaints that Ofreg has received in its nine months of existence, only 250 were about security deposits. "I don't think there is any evidence to suggest that the companies are demanding any more security deposits than normal," says Tony Boorman, Ofreg's director of consumer affairs.

Teresa Perchard, a social policy officer with the National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux, is concerned that electricity security deposits are being "bumped up." We've had quite a number of cases recently where the amounts demanded seem to us to be unreasonable."

She is anxious that Professor Littlechild should "intervene quickly" by laying down more precise rules as to who can be asked to pay and how much he or she can be charged. "At the moment it's up to the companies and it's all fairly loose."



Frank N Stein power

While many consumers are genuinely unable to pay their utility bills, others who can - frequently middle-class professionals - deliberately wait until the final demand before paying up. While the electricity companies do not break down their debtors into the "cannots" and "will nots", British Gas warns customers that "if you can pay, but regularly delay your payment until we send you a disconnection notice, we may have to take special action". A spokesman said the "special action" might be "applying for a warrant to disconnect you".

More than 75 per cent of domestic electricity consumers pay on their first bill. About 60,000 - out of a total of 20 million - annually pay security deposits to the 14 electricity companies. The amount varies - the average is about £100 - but it is normally one and half times the customer's average electricity bill.

Legally, domestic gas and electricity customers who do not pay their bills can be cut off 20 working days after receiving their first bill, plus

SALLY BROMPTON

How to wear parents down

You don't have to feel guilty to cater to your children's every (outrageously expensive) whim, but it helps

Children as young as four would not be seen dead in a tracksuit or pair of trainers which do not carry a designer label. This phenomenon, already familiar to parents of sophisticated blackmailers, is revealed this week in a report from the National Consumer Council (NCC), based on interviews with mothers in Sheffield and London.

The mothers surveyed claimed it was the fault of the advertising industry and rock videos that they were bullied into buying £120 shoes, and these may indeed be partly to blame. But psychological warfare is very often something that today's children learn at the judge's knee in the divorce court.

The NCC report concludes that single parents are the most vulnerable to young whining, because they feel a need to compensate for what they think their children are missing. This is probably why I bought my 14-year-old

daughter Christian Dior's Poison for £20, instead of a bottle of the sort of innocent scent she ought to be wearing at her age. A colleague who travels a lot admits she over-compensates her teenage daughter for her long absences, as well as for divorcing her father, by buying outrageously extravagant clothes. This particular girl and her schoolfriends are currently wild about the Dutch designs of Oilly in Sloane Street (one recent purchase was a £170 jacket), so in order to go one better she took her daughter off to the firm's headquarters in The Netherlands to buy the very, very latest and gain some kind of classroom cred.

That is nothing. If divorce provides substantial fuel for this supposed consumer boom by way of competition and compensation, it also creates a

means for an "ex", or a new partner, to exercise power. A friend was forced to smile, albeit through clenched teeth, when the woman her former husband left home for bought their 14-year-old daughter her first ball dress. "It was absolutely gorgeous, cost a fortune and I thought, how do I compete with that?" she says.

Of course it is not just a breakdown of the family which is making children demand the best. Designer clothes are well made, and we all want our children to look good, although I find I can forgo some of that pleasure in favour of not acquiring an

overdraft. One friend has hit on a truly sneaky way of weaning her teenage daughter off the sort of laughably expensive trainers she persuaded her father to buy at Christmas. This is not a ploy she is particularly proud of but you will, I am sure, acknowledge its efficacy. It is the Turkish carpet story modified to suit shoes, the one about them being made by poor children in Third World countries who get paid a pittance. You can back this up with a rumour about the dyes being tested on animals.

There is a huge snob element about designer labels

which, this being Britain, is fiendishly complicated.

Where I live in southeast London children apparently get mugged for their trainers, but my sister, whose son goes to Radley, says snuffily that the whole thing is very common and comprehensive. At Radley, she says, they compete for who can wear the scruffiest clothes imaginable. My nephew wears his father's shoes, so perhaps public school is cheaper in the long run.

Predictably, perhaps, left-wing intellectuals will have no truck with their children trying to keep up with the Jones minors. An economics lecturer told me that it is a way for people to show off their wealth, and is a throwback to the days when the poor could afford only plum-

soles or hob-nailed boots. Admitting that he is quite dictatorial with his teenagers, he described those who did indulge in the designer label cult as "suckers".

Equally predictable is Gordon Gillick (husband of Victoria), who also scoffed at what he called "the Escorial-driving moron". One of his sons, he told me proudly, had just bought himself a new overcoat with a cashmere collar and sheepskin lining, for all the world the coat of a dyed-in-the-wool plutocrat. Not new to him, it cost only £3. But then the Gillicks are "artistic" and "eccentric". For the rest of us who do not have children who can buy something at an army surplus store, dye it and call it style, designer labels will have to do.

Not only am I contemplating buying an Escorial, but I have only recently realised that Naf-Naf is not the same as naff. Or is it?

HEATHER KIRBY

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Sometimes I just sits & BRIEFLY

THE latest "Leisure Intelligence Report" from the market research group Mintel confirms what most of us suspect: 70 per cent of the population spend much of their leisure time doing absolutely nothing. "Just sitting and relaxing or daydreaming" is one of the most popular British pastimes. A third of adults spend up to three hours a week doing nothing, 8 per cent spend seven to ten hours inactive, while a "bored idle" core of 12 per cent does nothing at all for more than ten hours a week. The report says that men are much better at being idle than women, possibly because they have an average of ten hours or more free time at the weekend.

Bearding Santa

BARELY has the debris of Christmas past been swept away than manufacturers are preparing for Christmas yet to come. Royal Doulton has just issued its 1991 catalogue, including its family Christmas plate for the year. The plate depicts a business-suited woman fitting a beard on her husband, who is preparing to play the part of Father Christmas.

How could the company unlearn Father Christmas in this way? "This series is

designed to capture some of the magic of a family Christmas - carol singing, dressing the tree, playing Father Christmas and going to church," the company says. "Neil Faulkner, our designer, really believes that part of his duty as a father of three is to dress as Santa, stay up until the early hours of Christmas morning and bang his toes as he shuffles along in socks in the dark. Please don't disillusion him."

Sew far

THERE are still a few places left for the opening sessions of the Liberty sewing school, which begins its programme on January 17 with a course in ladies' tailoring (£60 for six weekly sessions), and includes lessons in creating ball gowns, wedding gowns and "silk silhouettes". Course prices start at £40 for a one-day workshop in paper patterns (February 28), to £280 for a ten-week course in boning and beading. Liberty sewing school, Regent Street, London W1R 6AH (071-734 1234).

Date of the art

THE London Contemporary Art Fair, from January 24 to 27, provides an opportunity to pick up original works from about £20 to £20,000. Experts,

including Sarah Jane Checkland of *The Times*, and Roger de Grey, the president of the Royal Academy of Arts, will mingle with amateur enthusiasts. The fair will be at the Business Design Centre, 52 Upper Street, Islington, London N1 (071-359 3535).

In the flesh

THE 1991 Ehrman tapestry and knitting catalogue (£1 from Ehrman, 14-16 Lancer Square, Kensington Church Street, London W8 4EP) is so tempting that there is little need to visit the shop. But the company discovered that its range of wallpapers and fabrics - many by the leading needlework designer Kaffe Fassett - was not selling well by mail order. "Customers wanted to see them in situ where they could really appreciate the pattern... It was impossible to imagine from catalogue photographs and small samples sent through the post what they would be like when up," the company says. Now there is the new Ehrman wallpaper and fabric shop at 21-23 Vicarage Gate, Kensington, London W8 4AA (071-937 5077), while the tapestries and knitwear can be seen made up at the equally stylish new tapestry and knitwear shop at Lancer Square, which offers ready-made pieces for sale as well as kits, canvases and yarns.

VICTORIA MCKEE

BRIEFING

THEATRE

Officially unique

LEA Salonga, star of *Miss Saigon*, has been told she can star in the Broadway version of the hit musical, after all. American Equity had said that an American actress should play the part of the bar girl because the 19-year-old Filipina did not have the star status required for a transatlantic transfer. Now, after three weeks of consideration, an arbitrator has ruled that Salonga is an actor "providing unique services". Technically, therefore, she is a star and can join Jonathan Pryce (also initially barred from Broadway) for the April opening in New York. "I'm so very, very happy, so excited," Salonga said yesterday in Manila, where she has been spending Christmas with her family.



Lea Salonga: to Broadway

Nuttin' of plenty

DESPITE the proven profitability of Peter Schaufuss's version of *The Nutcracker*, English National Ballet is shopping around for another. Director Ivan Nagy has announced that the company will mount a new production next season to replace Schaufuss's labyrinthine re-working of Tchaikovsky's ballet. The current production (final performance at the Festival Hall on Saturday) continues to set box-office records, netting £955,000 so far this season.

Last chance

AFTER an extended, sold-out run, Orange Tree Theatre's powerful version of George Eliot's *Adam Bede* officially closes on Saturday, but there will be a final performance, on Sunday evening, a benefit for Richmond's Vineyard Project, the hostel recently damaged by fire. Tickets are £10, bookable on 081-940 3633. Meanwhile, the Orange Tree's own campaign for more space comes to fruition next month when a new theatre opens in the gutted and reconstructed school across the road.

Kenneth Rea assesses the response to his Gulbenkian Foundation report on the training of theatre directors, published a year ago

Max Stafford-Clark, normally a passionate believer in director-training, asks sceptically: "Is it worth training people for a job in which they're not going to be able to earn a living?" Despite a crisis of funding, he still has aspirations at the Royal Court, but as he points out, the crunch comes after the training. Half the theatre directors in Britain earn less than £5,000 a year. "You have to ask what level of masochism it is that will keep somebody doing that at the age of 26 or 27," he says, "rather than going into television or directing *EastEnders*, or *Casualty*."

The issues of training were the subject of my report, *A Better Direction*, which the Gulbenkian Foundation published almost a year ago. Provoking a blaze of controversy, the report concluded that, great though it may sometimes be, the British theatre is built on a foundation of amateurism where most of the people who direct plays for a living have learnt their job simply by doing it.

Two solutions were proposed: an immediate network of training opportunities for working directors and others to fill the gaps in their own experience, and a long-term plan to set up at least one properly funded three-year professional course in directing for the theatre.

But reports often have a habit of raising a rumpus for a week or two, then gathering dust. After a year, has this one really changed anything?

Although the debate will probably continue for a long while yet, most directors now agree that there are identifiable skills which could only be improved by good training. Not only has there been a shift in attitude, but ideas are becoming a reality. Last month, the Directors' Training Council held its first meeting. Several other important initiatives are under way.

One of the first organisations to respond to the report was the Institut Français, which is planning a symposium to be held in London next summer. Leading European directors such as Peter Brook, Peter Stein, Patrice Chéreau and Giorgio Strehler are being invited to come and share their views on the craft of directing. This symposium will be open to a large number of British directors.

The International Workshop Festival is planning a Soviet season next autumn in which several eminent directors, including Anatoli Vasiliev and Robert Sturua, will work with British actors and directors. Also in



One of the busy ones: National Theatre director Nicholas Hytner at work with English National Opera

the autumn, the *Japan 1991* festival will have workshops (for example, in *Noh* Theatre) open to directors.

Attitudes to director-training are also strengthening within the theatre establishment. Under Adrian Noble, the Royal Shakespeare Company is aware that if its artistic future is to be secure, a new breed of directors must urgently be nurtured.

As executive producer Michael Attenborough says: "The question of training will be a vital strand of our work—training for actors, writers, designers and most certainly directors. We'll broaden the range of opportunities available to our assistant directors and we shall launch our new summer school for directors, drawing in particular on talent from the regions. Much of this activity will centre on *The Other Place* when it re-opens in July. In the long term, we hope to involve major directors from abroad."

At the National, Richard Eyre says: "The Gulbenkian report has raised consciousness and it has obliged people to ask themselves questions. We now have a more considered approach to the appointment of staff directors, who are assistants but are also responsible for overseeing the show once it is on. They will be more

involved in the NT Studio and, in a sense, will be able to flex their directing muscles. Over a longer term, they would see us working towards a policy which is much closer to the RSC's policy of taking on directors whom you are prepared to stand by for several years."

The new head of the NT Studio, Sue Higginson, continues the system of attachments for young directors to work with professional actors away from the pressures of public performances, while Frank Nealon, head of staff directors, has devised what he calls "a crash course of the National Theatre", to cope with the hoards of people who ask to observe rehearsals.

Fewer people will be taken in, but they will get a much more intensive experience. Each year, four young directors will be offered attachments of between two and three months. Those who accept will attend rehearsals for various productions, have access to almost anyone in the building and, at the end of their stay, will direct a short workshop production with professional actors. David McVicar, a Glasgow director, will be the first to take up his attachment next Monday.

Nothing, however, can beat a solid professional training, and until that happens, directors will continue to acquire their skills in a haphazard

way. As Richard Eyre says: "It is a terrible shame that there is no directors' course of any sort of seriousness."

"This is why, I think, there are so many directors who went to Cambridge University. It is not because there is a mafia connection. It is because, uniquely, it has an amateur theatre that's very well equipped and well endowed, and directors get their experience there in a way that they cannot get in any other student context in the country."

Perhaps the most important consequence of *A Better Direction* is the recent setting up of the Directors' Training Council. Its job will be to plan and co-ordinate the overall development in director-training throughout the country. With a high-level representation of workers, trainers and employers, it will steer through the recommendations of the report, pressure for the necessary funding and help establish good standards of professional training.

Meanwhile, stories abound of untrained directors abusing their powers, behaving appallingly towards people they work with and showing complete incompetence. One day, some of them will have the chance to be among the best trained in the world. The difference will, I hope, be apparent on both sides of the curtain.

GALLERIES

Cutters remarked

A London exhibition by four women engravers, reviewed by Jim McCue

Sarah Van Niekirk, one of four women wood-engravers whose work is showing at Duncan Campbell's London gallery, says: "Engraving is so slow that it is essential to make the preliminary drawing quickly if the finished block is not to appear static." Though it must have cost her pains to engrave "Rooks"—its jagged branches silhouetted against stark white paper—has the electric immediacy of lightning.

Rachel Reckitt's dark vision demonstrates a different mastery. Whether depicting a stampeding bull, the bulk of Battersea Power Station glimpsed from wartime ruins, or the muscular effort of "Fire-Welding", her theme is struggle between forces of chaos and life. Her big prints are dense with Hopkins' "manmarks woadmire toil"—fishermen, for instance, bowed and burdened by coils of rope. As well as the weight of tombstones and the menace of the Old Testament (illustrations to the Psalms), she shows brute stone, iron and wood, sheared, buckled and splintered. It comes as little surprise that in her eighties she still wrights iron.

Gwenda Morgan has a more comfortable rural idiom. Several of her engravings reinterpret traditional scenes ("Nati-

vity", "The Seasons"), and many are divided into panels, either formally as in one tiny triptych, or by ingenious technical means. "By the River" is apparently hinged along bold oblique cuts into several views: fishing, rowing, feeding swans and so on. The engraving of "The Two Houses"—one founded upon a rock, one swept away by a torrent—is scissored by slashing rain.

Like Gwenda Morgan, Sarah Van Niekirk occasionally uses a storyboard layout. "The Life of St Cuthbert", for instance, is a hagiography in several episodes, from Cuthbert's conversion by a ministering angel through his years at Lindisfarne to the tomb. The style here is at once modern and infused with the benign comedy of early medieval icons.

Van Niekirk achieves remarkable grain and texture: bark, the stones of a castle, canopies of leaves, and especially the contrasting coats of sheep, pigs and cats. The distinctness of the breeds she shears on her woodblocks would have delighted Agnes Miller Parker (1895-1980), ten of whose animal engravings are also for sale at the show.

Four Wood Engravers is at Duncan Campbell Fine Art, 15 Thackeray Street, London W8 (071-937 8665) until January 25



Electric immediacy: "Rooks" by Sarah Van Niekirk

CLASSICAL MUSIC

One man's quest for freedom

Surprisingly, Hans Werner Henze claims he has never made political statements in his music. "Rather, I have made artistic statements inspired by ideas concerned with the human condition, and with the individual's struggle for survival and freedom," he says. From a man who publicly aligned himself with revolutionary left-wing politics in the Sixties and Seventies, such a denial might startle those who judge from repute.

He does not proselytise, he insists, but merely writes from personal conviction about the world. He is still, nevertheless, a member of the Italian Communist Party, though he has clear views about the recently deposed communist regimes in Eastern Europe. "Since Paul Dessau's death I did not feel obliged to visit the DDR anymore. Of course we have no way yet of telling if efforts have been or will be made to achieve a new form, a better form of communal life in these countries. But I know from people I have met in those places as friends—musicians and probably privileged—that things did not look promising."

"They were obliged to operate an antiquated system of government imposed by the victorious Soviets. But you cannot patronise, deprive and bully people and expect them

Hans Werner Henze, featured composer in a BBC festival, talks to Stephen Pettitt



Hans Werner Henze: "Tradition is a phenomenon that has to be reinterpreted by each new generation."

to be grateful. That sort of thing brought back all the *Pöbelkämpfer* of Nazi times."

Henze's profound disquiet with German ways after the war (on one occasion he was hauled into the local police station to be interrogated about his homosexuality, which at that time he was forced to deny) led to his move to Italy in the early Fifties. Much of his work since then has been seen as an emblem of his struggle either to reconcile himself with, or reject, the Germanic within him.

His quest for personal and artistic freedom has taken him on a sometimes bewilderingly eclectic path. In the BBC's retrospective festival this week, for instance, audiences will be granted an opportunity—too rare in this country—to hear a number of pieces from the late Fifties in which he attempted to rid himself of the Germanic elements of his language.

"In pieces such as *Nachstücke und Arien*, the Neapolitan *Lieder* and the ballet *Odin* I was trying to write using fewer layers, to give more light and transparency to the music, to make it simple and precise, like the Italian language." Nowadays, however, he does seem to have effected the reconciliation, both linguistically and spiritually. "The aim," he says, "to reveal something like that is still there. But usually after eight bars which could be left alone. I invent a counter-element to destroy that simplicity."

The works for the BBC's festival have been selected by Henze and BBC producer Clive Bennett. "We tried to be as representative as possible, and we haven't chosen necessarily the best pieces. We are trying to show, for instance, the variety of the early pieces and their influences on later ones. Last night I was working on the ballet *Rosa Silber*. I had completely forgotten this piece. But now I can see it contains two elements that recur a great deal in my music. There is the presence of folksong, of traditional tunes on one side, and on the other the presence of rhythms that stem from older music and dances."

"Actually, this piece is a set of variations on an old French folk tune. That is another constant in my music, the principle of variation. That is one challenge which I respond to, how to go about developing music from one motif."

Does that apply even to such enormously complicated pieces as the Fifth and Sixth Symphonies? "Yes, I have always had a strong interest in the progression of chords as a tool of expression through harmonic structures. That is very traditional, of course. Boulez always said that working with old structures was a bad thing. But I have tried to adapt old structures to suit my artistic needs. Tradition is a phenomenon that has to be reinterpreted by each new generation."

One of the festival's concerts, that to be given under the composer's own direction by the young British ensemble Parnassus, includes two sections from a composite work in progress called *Requiem*. Henze is an agnostic, so why the title? "This is a piece for a large instrumental ensemble. There are no voices, and it's to be in nine sections, each called 'Geistliche Konzert'. The first movement, 'Introitus', was written as a response to Michael Vyner's death and was first played at his memorial concert last year. The complete work is dedicated to the memory of the London Sinfonietta's artistic director."

What news of other imminent works? "There is an Eighth Symphony for the Boston Philharmonic, and a Ninth for the Berlin Philharmonic, where I have been appointed composer-in-residence." While Britain awaits those, the BBC's festival offers another rare chance, that of hearing again the eloquent and dramatic Holderlin-inspired Seventh Symphony of 1984, for him a watershed of which a commercial recording is now overdue.

Does Henze's determined severance from the ways of the post-Weberians in the Fifties mean that he has little respect for the avant-gardists who would seek to change everything and create new musical languages? "There was a radical movement against tradition and I think it was a historical necessity. But that doesn't mean you have to follow the figures who do that kind of thing. A great number of new discoveries have been made, new electronic sounds which have enriched the spectrum and which composers like me can now use."

If not exactly a disciple, is he at least an interested observer of Stockhausen, Boulez and the rest? "No, I do not follow those colleagues' developments, but that goes for them too. We are just too busy exploring our own worlds."

The BBC Henze Festival begins tomorrow with one of two performances of the recent Montepulciano production of the opera *The English Cat* at the Guildhall School of Music. From Friday, for five consecutive days, there are concerts and free foyer events at the Barbican, some to be broadcast live on Radio 3.

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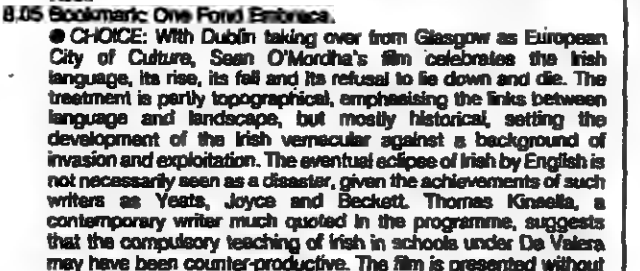
8.00 Cerebra
8.30 BBC Breakfast News with Nicholas Witchell and Laurie Meyer
8.55 Daytime UK presented by Alan Titchmarsh and Judi Spiers in Birmingham and Adrian Miles in Manchester
9.00 News, regional news and weather **9.05 Brainwaves**. Quiz hosted by Andy Craig **9.25 Dish of the Day**. Tasty morsels prepared by Rosemary Moon **9.30 People Today**. Includes a phone-in for viewers to give their opinions
10.00 News, regional news and weather **10.05 Children's BBC** introduced by Simon Parkin begins with **Playdays 10.25 Rupert**. Cartoon fun with the colourfully clad bear (p.10) **3.50 People Today**. Including **Mother of Mine** in which celebrities talk about their childhood while in conversation with their mothers
11.00 News, regional news and weather **11.05 Kilroy**. Robert Kilroy-Glik shares a discussion on African famine **11.45 Before Noon**. Includes a discussion of today's **Brainwaves** quiz
12.00 News, regional news and weather **12.05 Happy Memories**. Cliff Michelmore and Wendy Gibson read the archive to find film and music that evokes pleasant memories for viewers **12.20 Some Today**. The daily entertainment show, live from Pebble Mill **12.55 Regional news and weather**
1.00 One O'Clock News with Philip Heyton. Weather
1.30 Neighbours. (Cerebra) **1.50 Going for Gold**
2.15 Knots Landing. Neighbourly Conduct. Soap about the comparatively poorer relations of the Dallas clan who live on the west coast
3.00 Primetime. Magazine series for older viewers presented by David Jacobs and Sheila McClelland. Includes a trip to Benidorm, where many older people spend their winters, and an interview with the two extraordinary sisters who live on Looe Island, off Cornwall
3.40 Cartoon. **Early Bird and the Worm** (p.10) **3.50 Bodge and Badger**. The first of a new series of the children's sitcom starring Andy Cunningham **4.05 The New Yogi Berra Show** (p.10) **4.15 Jackanory**. Sylvester McCoy with part three of **Rosie Dahl's Charlie and the Chocolate Factory** **4.25 The Chipmunks** **4.35 Potswort and Co.** The cartoon adventures of five Earthlings in the Dream Zone



Rediscovered: Jane, Cyril, Robert, Arthur... and N. (5.00pm)

5.00 Newsround 5.10 Five Children and N. Episode one of a new children's drama based on the story by E. Nesbit of **The Railway Children** and dramatised by Helen Cresswell. Five youngsters discover it, a small furry creature thousands of years old, while digging in a sandpit. (Cerebra)
5.35 Neighbours. (Cerebra). Northern Ireland. Sportswide **5.40 Inside Line**
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Anna Ford and Andrew Harvey. Weather **6.30 Regional News Magazine**. Northern Ireland. Neighbours **7.00 News**. Among Terry's guests are the actor Anton Rodgers and Gary Mason, the British heavyweight boxing champion
7.35 Doogie Howser, MD. American comedy series about a teenage doctor. It tends to split the audience into those who find Doogie cute and those who cannot stand him. (Cerebra)
8.00 Waterfront Beat. Microdramas. Phil Redmond's dockland police series, still with too much admin and not enough action. The *Beat* does it ten times better. (Cerebra)
8.50 Points of View. The programme that asks viewers' opinions enters its thirtieth anniversary year. The format has been changed to include telephone calls to make the programme more up-to-date and a request slot enabling viewers to choose a favourite clip from years gone by. The presenter is still Anne Robinson
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Martin Lewis. (Cerebra). Regional news and weather
9.30 Q.E.D. Homeopathy - Medicine or Magic? In recent clinical trials, homeopathic remedies have proven more effective than placebos and although typical homeopathic medicines are, in effect, nothing but water (they are diluted in more than a million, million parts of water) conventional doctors, vets, pet owners and farmers are claiming they work. The programme puts the claim to the test. (Cerebra)
10.00 Sportsnight introduced by Steve Rider. Football: highlights of tonight's FA Cup third round replays; Derby action from the world professional championship at Friday (Surrey, Surrey, Surrey) and Swimming: the world championships from Perth, Australia
12.00 Weather. Northern Ireland: (to 12.45am) Indoor Bowls

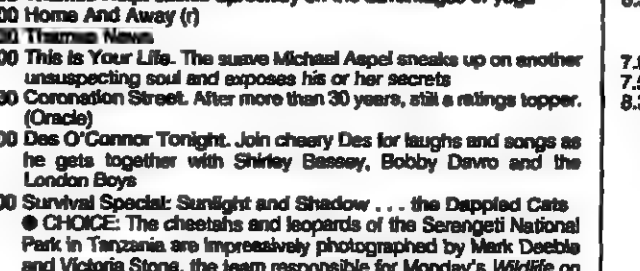
8.00 News
8.15 Children's Parties. A 40 Minutes documentary featuring some of the children's events celebrated in the summer of 1981 (p.10)
8.55 Class of '81. A ballad scene from *Westward Ho!* performed by Michelle Kocals and Clifton Bryan of Hareville Middle School (p.10)
9.00 Daytime on Two: episode one of a five-part adaptation of the novel *Buddy*, by Nigel Hinton **9.30 Maths** **9.45 Science** drama series for five and six-year-olds **10.00 For the very young** **10.15 Animal** **10.40 Scotland's** a drama and the Romans **11.00 Learning to read** **11.15 The first of an English series** designed to stimulate discussion in the classroom **11.35 For language** teachers **12.10 Photography** and images **12.30 The barriers** faced by some people living in sport **12.55 Maths** for adults **1.20 Pie in the Sky** **1.40 A classroom** **2.00 News** and weather followed by *You and Me* (p.10)
2.15 Darts. World professional championship. Highlights of last night's second round matches. Northern Ireland: (to 3.50) **Indoor Bowls** **3.55 Country File** presented by John Craven (p.10)
3.00 News and weather followed by *Days* **3.55 News**, regional news and weather
4.00 Catchword. Paul Cole hosts the anagrammatic word game
4.30 Behind the Headlines. Beverly Anderson discusses life in the year 2000, with guests Christine MacNulty from *Applied Features*, writer Jane McLaughlin, hypnotherapist Dr Chris Snow, and Ian Hishop, editor of *Private Eye*
5.00 Holiday Outing. Cap of Apple in the South of France (p.10)
5.10 Horizon: Sudden Death (p.10) (Cerebra)
6.00 Star Trek: The Next Generation. The crew of the *Enterprise* travel to a planet run by women to look for survivors from a Federation freighter disabled by an asteroid collision seven years earlier. (Cerebra)
6.45 D&T. It begins with *Reportage III*. A new series of the current affairs magazine returns with a fresh team of reporters led by Annalisa Forte. Among the subjects investigated is evangelism **7.35 Rapido** with Z.Z. Top, Bob Geldof and a report on Industrial Rock
8.05 Bookmark: One Ford Embraer
8.15 CHORICE. With Dublin taking over from Glasgow as European City of Culture, Sean O'Meara's celebration of the Irish language, its rise, its fall and its refusal to lie down and die. The treatment is partly topographical, emphasising the links between language and landscape, but mostly historical, setting the development of the Irish vernacular against a background of invasion and exploitation. The eventual eclipse of Irish by English is not necessarily seen as a disaster, given the achievements of such writers as Yeats, Joyce and Beckett. Thomas Kinsella, a contemporary writer much quoted in the programme, suggests that the compulsory teaching of Irish in schools under De Valera may have been counter-productive. The film is presented without commentary and lacks the guiding hand of a presenter who might have made the subject more accessible to non-Irish viewers
9.00 M&A'SH: Blake You Hawkeyes. More pathos, black humour and banter (p.10). (Cerebra)
9.25 Parnell and The Englishwoman: The Meeting
9.30 CHORICE. A four-part series from the experienced Hugh Leonard dramatises the story of the Irish nationalist leader Charles Stewart Parnell and the affair with the married Kitty O'Shea which brought about his downfall in 1880. Despite Leonard's proven talent for comedy, it is a solid, rather humourless production, although this is probably an accurate reflection of Parnell's character. The script dutifully sets out the political background, while representing Parnell as a tall, strapping, a rather more of a gall than of a politician. Victorian Britain is conveyed by the usual horse-drawn carriages clattering along the usual cobbled streets. In a bold piece of casting Parnell is played by Trevor Eve, almost unrecognisable behind a bushy beard and a long way from the randy Felix of *A Sense of Guilt*. Francesca Annis is a decorative Kitty and there is a sturdy support from Robert Long (as Gladstone) and T.P. McKenna. (Cerebra)



Parnell attraction: Trevor Eve and Francesca Annis (9.25pm)

10.25 Fifth Column. A personal opinion on a current issue
10.30 Newsnight presented by Peter Snow **11.15 Weather**
11.20 Behind The Headlines. See p.430. Ends at 11.55

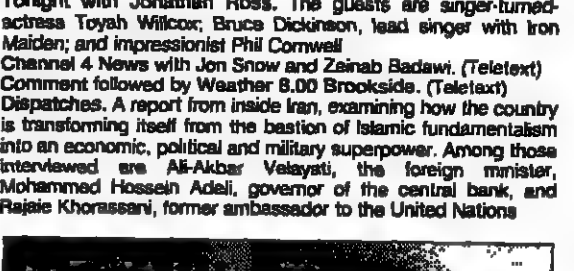
6.00 TV-am
9.25 Runaway. Quiz show hosted by Richard Madeley **9.55 Thames News** and weather
10.00 The Time... The Place. Mike Scott hosts another topical discussion
10.40 This Morning. Magazine series on family matters
12.05 Allsorts. For the very young **12.25 Home And Away** **12.55 Thames News** and weather
1.00 News at One with John Suchet. Weather
1.20 Mavis Catches Up With... Kik Douglas
1.30 CHORICE. The veteran 80s of the waylaid by Mavis Nicholson as she does the rounds of radio shows and book-signings to a crowd of 120. The show is a book plug, the volume in question is not the novel but Douglas's autobiography. Making almost no reference to his screen career, Mavis pursues the theme of the child left angry and wounded by the absence of love from the father. Attempting a bit of psycho-analysis, she suggests this may be why Kik has more women friends than men. Kik retorts that growing up with a stepfather who also has been a father, while attempts to persuade him into indecision about his sex life run into a good-humoured brick wall. Mavis is an intelligent interviewer who can get beneath the surface but Douglas has been around too long to be caught out. Future subjects include Lauren Bacall, Dr Robert Rundle and Dame Vera Lynn
1.50 A Country Practice. Australian soap based on a rural medical centre
2.20 Snooker: The Mercantile Credit Classic. Coverage of the quarter-final stages
3.15 News headlines **3.20 Thames News** headlines **3.25 The Young Doctors**. Antipodean hospital soap
3.55 Bugs Bunny and Friends. Cartoons **4.15 Mike and Angelo**. Mike gets into trouble at school while Angelo gets into trouble under the collar
4.40 Rolf's Cartoon Club presented by Rolf Harris
5.10 Blockbusters. Bob Holness hosts the quiz show for teenagers
5.40 News with Carol Barnes. (Cerebra) Weather
5.55 Thames Help. Jackie Sprockley on the advantages of yoga
6.00 Home And Away (p.10)
6.30 Thames News
7.00 This Is Your Life. The same Michael Aspel sneaks up on another unsuspecting soul and exposes his or her secrets
7.30 Coronation Street. After more than 30 years, still a ratings topper.
8.00 Des O'Connor Tonight. John Cherry Des for laughs and songs as he gets together with Shirley Bassey, Bobby D'Amico and the London Boys
9.00 Survival Special: Sunlight and Shadow... The Dappled Cats
9.10 CHORICE. The cheetahs and leopards of the Serengeti National Park in Tanzania are impressively photographed by Mark Dooble and Victoria Stone, the latter responsible for Monday's *Wildlife* on One about the giant octopus. Spotted cats they may be but the film establishes the cheetah and leopard as completely different in physique and behaviour. The leopard, stocky and muscular, is a loner who hunts at night, often prowling around in suburban gardens. Cheetahs, long-legged and slender, prefer to lounge in numbers and are faster than what they eat. Both are extensively photographed in pursuit and conquest of their prey, not always a pretty sight. Animal's inhumanity to animal once again prompts the thought that if Lord Reese-Mogg is serious about violence on television, he should not ignore wildlife programmes. (Cerebra)



A spot of relaxation: leopards of the Serengeti (9.00pm)

10.00 News at Ten with Julia Somerville and Fiona Armstrong. (Cerebra)
10.30 The Young and the Rubidious. The second quarter-final
10.40 Snooker: The Mercantile Credit Classic. The second quarter-final
11.20am The Winds of War. Episode six of the four American second world war saga starring Robert Mitchum and Ali MacGraw (p.10)
2.30 Videotext. A look at the fashion houses of Milan
3.00 America's Top Ten. The top ten singles of 1990
3.50 Quiz Night hosted by Martin Roberts
4.00 A Night at the Movies. The Final Twist. Three special effects artists plot to turn the tables on their unscrupulous boss
4.30 Fifty Years On. Newsreels from January 1941
5.00 ITN Morning News with Gilly Carter. Ends at 6.00

6.00 The Art of Landscape. Beautiful scenes of the natural world accompanied by soothing music
6.20 Business Daily
6.30 The Channel Four Daily
9.25 Schools
12.00 Broken Silence. A look at the energy needed when animals fight one another (p.10)
12.30 Business Daily. Financial and business news service
1.00 Susanna Street
2.00 Film: Tin Pan Alley (1940, b/w). Betty Grable, Alice Faye and Jack Oakie star in an understated Hollywood musical about two struggling songwriters and their girlfriends during and after the first world war. The film includes a sparkling score of songs, including "Moonlight Bay", "Honey-Suckle Rose" and "The Sheik of Araby". The last, a sumptuous dance number, fell out of the Hays Office which felt that the chorus girls were showing too much. As a result the score was judiciously edited before public release. Lively treatment helps to make the clichés of the plot. Alfred Newman won an Oscar for the best music score. Directed by Walter Lang
3.45 Dodging the Column. A 1952 British Rail documentary which follows the transportation of a 137th distillation column from Greenwich to Grangemouth
4.00 Great British Isles: Fair Isle - Not Strictly for the Birds. Leslie Thomas takes a look at Britain's most isolated inhabited island, Fair Isle, which lies midway between Shetland and the Orkneys, and is an important stopping place for millions of migrating birds (p.10)
4.30 Countdown. Richard Whitley hosts the first round of the 21st series of the word and numbers quiz
5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show. Oprah interviews the mothers of the phenomenally successful teen group *New Kids on the Block*
5.50 Mr Magoo. Animated adventure of the myopic Mr Magoo
6.00 The Wonder Years. Repeat run of the Emmy Award winning comedy which takes a look at American adolescent life in the 1960s
6.30 Tonight with Jonathan Ross. The guests are singer-turned-actress Toyah Wilcock, Bruce Dickinson, lead singer with Iron Maiden, and impressionist Phil Cornwell
7.00 Channel 4 News with Jon Snow and Zainab Badawi. (Teletext)
7.30 Comment followed by **Weather 8.00 Brookside**. (Teletext)
8.30 Dispatches. A report from inside Iran, examining how the country is transforming itself from the bastion of Islamic fundamentalism into an economic, political and military superpower. Among those interviewed are Ali-Akbar Velayati, the foreign minister, Mohammed Hossein Adli, governor of the central bank, and Reza Khorrami, former ambassador to the United Nations



Chinawise talk: Richard Fallon and Karen Westwood (9.15pm)

9.15 Short and Curious: The New Look. New series of short film. This first offering is written and directed by Chris Fallon and tells how Ricky (Chris Fallon) explores DIY with a chainsaw. With Karen Westwood and Robert Lister. (Teletext)
9.30 Matters of Taste. Continuing her series on food and drink, Janice Robinson argues that London is the capital of the international wine trade and looks at people who fly from all over the world to sit at a unique four-day feast. (Teletext)
10.00 Film: Heat and Dust (1982). An adaptation by Ruth Praver Jhabvala of her novel about a former BBC researcher, Anna (Julie Christie), who travels to India to investigate the life of her great-aunt Olivia (Greta Scacchi), the subject of a scandal in the Twenties. The film interweaves the modern story of how Anna is affected by what she discovers with the Twenties love affair between the aunt and a prince (Shashi Kapoor). The subject gets typically tasteful and polished treatment from the team of producer Ismail Merchant and director James Ivory, while the two Indies, of the Twenties and the Eighties, are authentically created
12.25am Sid Caesar's Show of Shows (b/w). Classic comedy from Sid Caesar
12.55 Jazz on a Winter's Night. Brantford Marsalis - Steep. A musical profile of Brantford Marsalis and his Quartet in concert in Charlotte, North Carolina. The programme also includes documentary sequences and reflects the many facets of Marsalis's character. There are celebrity appearances from Sting, Herbie Hancock and Billy Crystal. (Teletext). Ends at 2.35

TV VARIATIONS
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Labour plans 40 bills to launch its rights charter

By SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL REPORTER

ROY Hattersley, the deputy Labour leader, yesterday unveiled its Charter of Rights document, committing a Labour government to introducing 40 pieces of legislation to protect and extend civil liberties.

With the backing of the shadow cabinet, Mr Hattersley rejected the idea of a bill of rights in favour of specific legal rights. He said the priority for a Labour government would be a freedom of information bill giving people the right of access to all official and personal information, except in rare circumstances. A security services bill would also be introduced to set up an intelligence select committee of MPs to check on the work of MI5, MI6, Special Branch, when carrying out security work, and the GCHQ government communications centre.

Help for storm-hit Scotland

By KERRY GILL

COMMUNITIES in the west of Scotland that suffered flooding and severe damage during the weekend's storms are to get special government help, as Scotland braces itself for more snow today.

Allan Stewart, Scottish minister for local government, said the aid would be for councils which could show they faced an undue financial burden because of damage.

Worst hit by the storms were towns and villages on the Ayrshire coast and in Argyll, where some sea walls were broken and homes and businesses flooded.

The aid scheme is discretionary and has been used before in Scotland after floods in February, 1989, and February last year. The government will offer to meet 85 per cent of eligible spending over a threshold fixed for each council. This time it will cover all councils in the regions of Dumfries and Galloway, Strathclyde, Highland and the Western Isles. The scheme does not cover long term work or direct assistance to householders or normally insurable losses.

Meanwhile motorists were warned to take care in Scotland as temperatures dropped last night. Snow storms were expected across the country with up to six inches falling on high ground.

Seamen missing, page 3

At a Westminster press conference, Mr Hattersley said: "We intend to be explicit about individual rights rather than leave their interpretation to the courts, whose attitude towards these matters is best described as unpredictable."

"After a decade of elective tyranny we know that many traditional freedoms were inadequately protected against assault from authoritarian government. We also know that many basic rights, taken for granted by a fortunate minority, are not enjoyed by the vast majority of the British people," Mr Hattersley said. "The people of this country have grown tired of ancient clichés about our matchless constitution. They want freedom to be extended in practice, not in theory, to all our people."

Labour's proposed legislation includes: tougher laws on sex discrimination and equal pay; a new law to penalise discrimination of the disabled; controls on telephone tapping and other surveillance; stronger powers for the data protection registrar; licensing of all private detectives; replacing immigration and nationality laws to prevent racial and sexual discrimination; and extending legal aid to libel and discrimination cases.

In place of the Official Secrets Act, Labour's freedom of information bill would guarantee access to information held by public officials or companies unless disclosure damaged security, international relations or a person's safety, or helped criminals.

The document, described by Labour as a white paper, proposes the protection of individuals' rights by new ombudsmen and other officials, including an information commissioner to examine complaints of refusal to disclose information; a children's commissioner to promote children's interests in the public and private sectors; court inspectors to monitor the efficiency of law courts; and a press complaints tribunal if newspapers continued to invade personal privacy.

Robert MacLennan, the Liberal Democrats' home affairs spokesman, described the document as a recycled package of half measures.

"The refusal to propose an enforceable bill of rights shows clearly that Labour would only tinker with the system," he said. "This glossy package could be shredded by an incoming government since it would not be entrenched in a written constitution."



Major meets the Brigadier: the prime minister aboard a Challenger tank yesterday with Brigadier Christopher Hammerbeck, commander of the 4th Armoured Brigade

How did we do in the Test — and where's Kate Adie?

Continued from page 1

told them, would prefer a peaceful solution. But Saddam, as an aggressor, could not be allowed to make any gain from his invasion of Kuwait. He had invaded a relatively defenceless country and cities were being committed even as they sat there. People were being murdered and women attacked.

Mr Major warned the troops, too, that with the unpleasant array of weapons available to Saddam they would be back in the Gulf or somewhere else doing a similar job if he were not dealt with this time.

He argued that the power arrayed against Saddam as a consequence of the near unanimous worldwide support for UN resolutions would cease to be a warning to other would-be aggressors unless he was forced into

withdrawal with nothing to show for his action.

Perhaps the one false note came when he spoke to them about the talks between James Baker, the American Secretary of State, and Tariq Aziz, the Iraqi foreign minister. Their one real complaint is the lack of access to sufficient media information.

Where cricket-lover Mr Major could have scored was in letting them know the Test result — there were more questions about that among the soldiers than about geo-politics.

Sadly for Mr Major, however, he still has some way to go, it seems, in registering his existence with the public. Three times I heard troops complaining during his visit that they had not seen the one person they had hoped to encounter. No, not the prime minister, Kate Adie.

Panic after 5mph rail crash

Continued from page 1

as beds or stretchers. There were bodies all over the place and a lot of people were lying bleeding."

Mr Lake said that the lights in the train went out as it hit the buffers and people screamed out as they were hit by crumpled parts of the carriage. "The front carriage seemed to flip up and crush the carriage behind. The driver shouted out 'Hold on,' but only us at the front could hear him."

Mr Lake was taken to St Bartholomew's Hospital. Christina Gale, aged 38, a personal assistant, of Grove Park, Kent, told how she was trapped under a pile of bodies for about 15 minutes before she was pulled from the wreckage. She said: "I was stuck on the train for about 15 minutes, trapped by other people lying on top of me. There was a man lying next to me who joked: 'What am I doing here.' There was a woman lying under me who was

bleeding very badly." Denise Farrelly, aged 20, from Forest Hill, south London, said: "I just remember the lights going out and seats being thrown up in the air; the train seemed a bit fast; a lot were ready to get off and one man had already opened the door when there was a massive bang. People were smashing into each other and one woman had her leg jammed between two seats."

Commuters in the centre of the ten-carriage, 300-tonne train, which left Sevenoaks at 7.58 am, were badly injured as they were thrown in every direction and then trapped by wreckage when the fifth carriage mounted the sixth. That had a concussive effect down the train but the worst of the impact was in the centre of it.

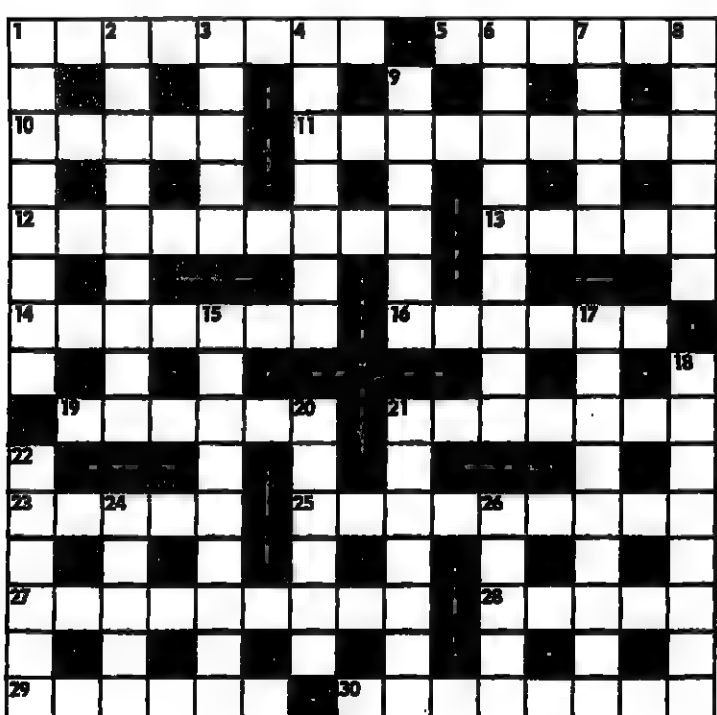
The train was packed with up to 1,000 people and, since there were no more seats from Grove Park, the last station before the penultimate stop at London Bridge, as

many as 200 had to stand for the last part of the journey. However, David Gallivan, aged 34, a Lloyd's underwriter, who travelled in the train from Orpington in Kent, said that many more commuters were badly hurt because they had stood up to get off the train at Cannon Street.

Mark Lyons, aged 21, a journalist with TV-am who arrived on a train 15 minutes after the accident, said: "People were littered on platform number three and were hugging each other to reassure themselves."

Soon after the accident the emergency teams were in action; a major incident was declared within ten minutes. Ambulances crowded the streets outside the station and a helicopter from the London Hospital hovered above ready to ferry away the seriously injured. In just over an hour the walking injured had been taken to hospital.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 18,498

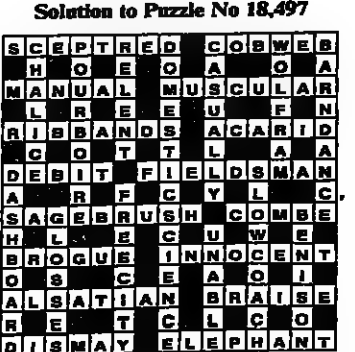


ACROSS

- 1 Glass vessel (8).
- 5 Sailor girl in charge of 8? (6).
- 10 In part of the Gobi, it died (5).
- 11 Study one head's maturity (9).
- 12 Endure long depression in the ultimate resort (4,5).
- 13 Avoid this city (5).
- 14 Self-centredness of Cockney — be irritated his master (7).
- 16 Small digger with spiked wheel on end of shaft (6).
- 19 Collar this girl (6).
- 21 There are laws about one German analgesic (7).
- 23 Habitual criminal, big in Nigeria (5).
- 25 "Smooth as monumental" (Orlando) (9).
- 27 Film sponsor (9).
- 28 Beat the seeds? (5).

DOWN

- 1 Ought to have some hesitation appearing in this joint (8).
- 2 No, this ale would be spoiled by a piece of ice (9).
- 3 Chose a workman? (5).
- 4 Mature Republican can make a mistake (7).
- 6 It stops one seeing the concealed church (9).
- 7 Correct myself at last (5).
- 8 She tends to resist change (6).
- 9 Revolutionary may take a whip-round to gain prestige (6).
- 15 Not having been willing to order satnette (9).
- 17 Letter writer is always poetical about Falstaff's companion (9).
- 18 Ask to become a Quaker to gain favour (8).
- 20 Indian thug in Paris (6).
- 21 Halfway through the dance, bare one's teeth in annoyance (7).
- 22 Staff may have this to keep wine in (6).
- 24 Point of departure one waited for (5).
- 26 Fruit eaten before the autumn in America (5).



Concise crossword, page 11

WEATHER

Eastern England will start dry, but rain over Wales and the South-West will move eastwards to reach most parts this morning, followed by brighter weather and then more rain. Scotland and Northern Ireland will have sleet and snow, but there will be bright spells, more so in the west. The North will be cold and windy. Further south will be milder, but windy. Outlook: unsettled and windy. Wintry showers on Friday.

MONDAY: 1-4 thunder, 5-10 drizzle, 11-16 rain, 17-20 sun, 21-24 rain, 25-28 sun, 29-31 rain, 32-35 sun, 36-39 rain, 40-43 sun, 44-47 rain, 48-51 sun, 52-55 rain, 56-59 sun, 60-63 rain, 64-67 sun, 68-71 rain, 72-75 sun, 76-79 rain, 80-83 sun, 84-87 rain, 88-91 sun, 92-95 rain, 96-99 sun, 100-103 rain, 104-107 sun, 108-111 rain, 112-115 sun, 116-119 rain, 120-123 sun, 124-127 rain, 128-131 sun, 132-135 rain, 136-139 sun, 140-143 rain, 144-147 sun, 148-151 rain, 152-155 sun, 156-159 rain, 160-163 sun, 164-167 rain, 168-171 sun, 172-175 rain, 176-179 sun, 180-183 rain, 184-187 sun, 188-191 rain, 192-195 sun, 196-199 rain, 200-203 sun, 204-207 rain, 208-211 sun, 212-215 rain, 216-219 sun, 220-223 rain, 224-227 sun, 228-231 rain, 232-235 sun, 236-239 rain, 240-243 sun, 244-247 rain, 248-251 sun, 252-255 rain, 256-259 sun, 260-263 rain, 264-267 sun, 268-271 rain, 272-275 sun, 276-279 rain, 280-283 sun, 284-287 rain, 288-291 sun, 292-295 rain, 296-299 sun, 300-303 rain, 304-307 sun, 308-311 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rain, 904-907 sun, 908-911 rain, 912-915 sun, 916-919 rain, 920-923 sun, 924-927 rain, 928-931 sun, 932-935 rain, 936-939 sun, 940-943 rain, 944-947 sun, 948-951 rain, 952-955 sun, 956-959 rain, 960-963 sun, 964-967 rain, 968-971 sun, 972-975 rain, 976-979 sun, 980-983 rain, 984-987 sun, 988-991 rain, 992-995 sun, 996-999 rain, 1000-1003 sun, 1004-1007 rain, 1008-1011 sun, 1012-1015 rain, 1016-1019 sun, 1020-1023 rain, 1024-1027 sun, 1028-1031 rain, 1032-1035 sun, 1036-1039 rain, 1040-1043 sun, 1044-1047 rain, 1048-1051 sun, 1052-1055 rain, 1056-1059 sun, 1060-1063 rain, 1064-1067 sun, 1068-1071 rain, 1072-1075 sun, 1076-1079 rain, 1080-1083 sun, 1084-1087 rain, 1088-1091 sun, 1092-1095 rain, 1096-1099 sun, 1100-1103 rain, 1104-1107 sun, 1108-1111 rain, 1112-1115 sun, 1116-1119 rain, 1120-1123 sun, 1124-1127 rain, 1128-1131 sun, 1132-1135 rain, 1136-1139 sun, 1140-1143 rain, 1144-1147 sun, 1148-1151 rain, 1152-1155 sun, 1156-1159 rain, 1160-1163 sun, 1164-1167 rain, 1168-1171 sun, 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BUSINESS

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 9 1991

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

Pan Am decides to file for Chapter 11

From PHILIP ROBINSON
NEW YORK

PAN American, one of America's oldest and now weakest airlines, has filed for Chapter 11 protective bankruptcy, still awaiting British regulatory approval for a London deal which could have provided the money to keep it from the bankruptcy courts.

The airline, once America's unofficial flagship, which dominated transatlantic skies for more than 30 years, is being loaned \$150 million by Bankers Trust and UAL, parent of United Airlines, America's largest, to keep it in the air while it reorganises its debts.

Pan Am said: "We had to file for bankruptcy because we have structural financial problems that cannot just be fixed with cash." The spokesman added that flights will be unaffected by the bankruptcy and that it would "maintain full flight schedules and customer services worldwide".

Four months ago Pan Am struck a deal with United Airlines to sell its package of routes into London's Heathrow airport. Once approved, that would have meant an immediate payment of \$290 million to Pan Am, part of asset sales worth \$400 million.

But the deal is still awaiting approval by the British authorities. America gave the ownership change tentative approval yesterday, just hours after the airline filed for bankruptcy.

Raymond Neidl, of Dillon



Plaskett: 'resign' call

Read, the securities house, said the filing "may buy them some time to get the regulatory approval to sell off the London route authority". Industry experts say one of the causes of the British delay is the wider question of agreements over who can fly where in America.

The Pan Am deal would give UAL, in direct competition with British Airways, the largest American share of the transatlantic market, five direct flights into Heathrow, a large slice of its plan to be a global airline and a key jumping off pad for Europe.

It would receive three daily New York-Heathrow flights, and one each from Washington, Los Angeles and San Francisco. It would also receive a Seattle-London flight three times a week and access from London to Amsterdam, Berlin, Brussels, Hamburg, Helsinki, Munich and Oslo.

British Airways raised objections to the deal because it and other European airlines do not have the same freedom

to fly within America. Under bilateral agreement, Pan Am and TWA are the only American airlines allowed to fly into London's main airport.

United said last night that its agreement to buy the London routes from Pan Am remains in place and that it will continue to accept Pan Am tickets.

United is putting up \$50 million of Pan Am's survival package, and analysts think Pan Am's filing to gain court protection from creditors under the Chapter 11 of the bankruptcy laws is designed to protect these loans and would have been a condition of the money being advanced. It is also thought by some that United may well choose to make a full bid for Pan Am and take the London routes.

The survival deal looks likely to kill a bid from TWA, a rival airline, where Carl Icahn, the chairman and chief executive, said he was prepared to offer \$375 million for Pan Am and provide a bridging loan to keep it going, on condition that Thomas Plaskett, Pan Am's chairman, resigned and the airline went into bankruptcy.

But the deal was fraught with personal acrimony and bickering. Mr Icahn said that American Airlines, United's rival, would have been prepared to pay \$500 million for Pan Am's London routes and Pan Am refused to go for court protection as part of the TWA bid. TWA said last night it was reviewing its options.

United has already paid \$20 million to Pan Am for its San Francisco operations, but the troubled airline, formed 64 years ago, was down to \$40 million and needed cash fast.

Continental Airlines, of Houston, sought bankruptcy protection on December 3 and Eastern Air Lines of Miami, Continental's sister, has been in bankruptcy proceedings since March 1989.

Full circle, page 19



Fruits of administration: Susanna Parkins of Phillips inspects the fine art to be auctioned in Asil Nadir's former office

Sale of art for Polly Peck's sake

By ANGELA MACKAY
AND JOHN SHAW

ASIL Nadir's desk was cleared and the drawers sticky-taped shut while the press stalked the offices of Polly Peck International, inspecting the fine collection of art and furniture to be auctioned next month by Phillips, the fine art dealer, at the request of the company's administrators.

Christopher Weston, Phillips' chairman, said the 305 lots on offer would fetch at least £3 million, which the administrators would use for the daily cash requirements of the debt-burdened fresh fruit, hotels and electronics group.

The top lots include a George III mahogany break-front bookcase expected to

fetch £150,000-£200,000, and two Turner watercolours - *The Castle of Saint Michael*, *Bonneville, Savoy from the banks of the River Arve*, (upwards of £150,000), and *Oberwesel and Schönbach Castle* - from the artist's tour of the Continent in August and September 1817.

Phillips calls the company's headquarters, furnished as a late Georgian London townhouse, "an interior decorator's paradise". It was put together with great flair by Guideren Takva, an interior decorator and wife of a senior Polly Peck executive. Tickets hang on everything: a George III 12-light crystal chandelier from Ditchley Park, Oxon is now lot 137 (£40,000-£60,000), while an early George III

occasional table from Elveden Hall, Thetford, Norfolk, is lot 161 (£8,000-£12,000).

Mr Weston is optimistic about the sale, saying there is interest from America and Europe. The furniture trade, however, is sceptical. Trade sources said £3 million, if realised, would be a substantial reduction on the original outlay, estimated at about £7 million. The bulk of the property was bought through Hotspur and Partridge, the dealers. "It is high quality but in a nutshell it is the wrong sale and the wrong time of year," said one source. "Frankly, nobody sells fine English furniture like this in February."

Two of PPT's three administrators were in New York

yesterday, and one of them, Michael Jordan, travelled on to northern Cyprus to try and prise more information out of the company's subsidiaries there. Mr Jordan said several small non-core businesses are being sold. The sales of Le Shark, the clothing company, and the consumer electronics concern, Russell Hobbs, are being finalised, he noted.

Meanwhile Elizabeth Forsyth, the former chairman of South Audley Management, a company controlled by a Nadir family trust, was interviewed by the Serious Fraud Office under section 2 of the Criminal Justice Act. The SFO raided the offices of South Audley in September - the beginning of the end of Mr Nadir's control of the group.

BA denies bid for Interflug

By HARVEY ELLIOTT, AIR CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH Airways has denied that it had put in any formal bid for Interflug and described a German announcement to that effect as "flying a kite".

Lord King, chairman of BA, said: "We have definitely not put in any bid for Interflug. Obviously we are interested in what happens to the airline but I know absolutely nothing about any formal bid. It could be that they are flying a kite."

Earlier, Interflug in Berlin said that several companies, including BA, had placed bids with the Treuhandanstalt privatisation agency to buy into the east German airline. "There are six or seven bidders, among them British Airways," said an Interflug spokesman. A spokesman for

Treuhand was not available for comment.

British Airways abandoned attempts to buy Interflug because it now plans to set up a new Berlin-based airline with the help of German investment. Interflug fears it is being "railroaded" into the arms of Lufthansa by the German government and is trying desperately to raise the stakes by suggesting that BA and others are making formal attempts to buy the airline.

Privately BA is both embarrassed and astonished by the new claims and is adamant that it does not want to know about the former east German national flag carrier.

● Sabena, Belgium's ailing national airline, will record

"very heavy losses" for 1990, a company spokesman said. But Pierre Godfrid, the new chairman of Sabena, said in a letter to employees a restructuring plan should cure the company's financial woes.

"Within this new structure we want to push through a number of strategic and operational improvements. It is urgently necessary to get our company out of the very heavy deficit figures within 18 months," Godfrid wrote.

Sabena faces an uncertain future after a deal with BA and KLM Royal Dutch Airlines was scrapped recently. The collapse of the deal left Sabena at the starting line again in its bid for a larger share of the European airline market.

Treasury unveils hard ecu alternative towards union

By COLIN NARBROUGH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

THE Treasury has unveiled draft amendments to the founding treaty of the European Community that call for the adoption of Britain's hard ecu alternative route to monetary union.

The texts, put forward by Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, give formal shape to proposals made in June by John Major, when he was Chancellor.

Though the drafts are in line with Mr Major's plan, Treasury sources said they were open to discussion and change at the intergovernmental conference on economic and monetary union, which starts next Tuesday.

The government's objective is still to find a way in which all EC countries can move towards monetary union without prior commitment to a single currency and independent European central bank, key elements in the plan of Jacques Delors, president of the European Commission, opposed by Britain.

Britain believes a single currency would wreak untold damage on the weaker economies, and has said that the Delors plan would mean a two-speed Europe. It has re-

jected the idea of handing over responsibility for monetary policy to a central bank not answerable to Parliament.

However, in his draft texts, Mr Lamont offers two alternatives for a proposed European monetary fund (EMF) responsible for issuing and managing the new common currency to be used parallel with national currencies.

Though the first option states the board of the EMF will be "completely independent and shall neither seek nor take instructions from any Community institution, national government or any other body or persons", the Treasury says this represents no shift in the British position. The second foresees a treaty that affects relations between central banks and governments as little as possible.

Treasury sources indicated that the EMF, which has been rejected by the Bundesbank, would be open to far-reaching change. Its key function would be to ensure that the ecu is always the strongest currency in the exchange-rate mechanism, with no scope for devaluing against other units in the parity grid.

Profits falling sharply

By OUR ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

OFFICIAL figures showed a steep decline in company profits and a sharp rise in net borrowing in the third quarter of 1990.

In the personal sector the counter-inflationary squeeze improved the savings ratio to 8.8 per cent from 7.4 per cent

in the second quarter. The Central Statistical Office data showed that company profits, net of stock appreciation, dropped by 7.8 per cent between the second and third quarters to stand 3.1 per cent below the third quarter of 1989.

Leading article, page 9

O&Y denies delay at Canary Wharf

By MATTHEW BOND

OLYMPIA & York, the Canadian property group, has denied that it is to delay later phases of its £3 billion Canary Wharf project.

According to a report in today's *Construction Weekly*, phase three of the London Docklands project (some 2.5 million sq ft of office space) will stay on the drawing board until the property market improves.

The report says O&Y will finish the car parking and infrastructure for phase

three, but will not begin work on the buildings. The trade paper quotes Chuck Young, an O&Y director, as saying that later phases of the 10 million sq ft project will be "demand driven". If correct, that would represent a marked shift in direction by O&Y, which is building the first two phases speculatively in the belief that the quality of the development will create its own demand.

A spokeswoman for Canary Wharf said Mr Young's comments could have been misinterpreted. The spokeswoman

said O&Y was sticking to a construction timetable first agreed a year ago. The architect for phase three, which includes two more skyscrapers, will be appointed shortly, and the design process is expected to last a year.

The 4.3 million sq ft of phase one, which includes the 800 ft central skyscraper, is more than 50 per cent pre-let and will be completed this year. Work on the 925,000 sq ft phase two is well underway, with about a third of the space pre-let to Texaco, the oil company.

Regional boards go at Lloyds

LLOYDS Bank is abolishing its eight regional boards and making their 59 part-time directors redundant as part of its cost-cutting programme.

The bank has decided to replace its eight regions with a network of 90 areas, each controlled by an area director. The regional boards were established after the war as a forum for comment on bank policy. Their abolition completes Lloyds' reorganisation into area units, intended to make the bank's branches more responsive to local conditions.

In 1990, the bank lost a net 2,000 jobs from its staff of 55,000 through natural wastage and early retirements. The bank plans further job cuts and branch closures this year.

Goode fights bid

Goode Durrant, the vehicle hire and distribution, construction and financial services conglomerate, has prepared itself for a hostile takeover bid from Winnedael, its 25 per cent shareholder. The dividend was held at 2.15p.

ECGD offer

An offer for Insurance Services, the short-term underwriting arm of the Export Credits Guarantee Department, is to be made by Credietverzekering Maatschappij (NCM), the Dutch credit insurance company. The bid is expected to be £100-150 million.

Mowat's loans

Mowat, the USM property and leisure group, has completed a £33.5 million refinancing of its short term debt. The new loans run for between three and four years.

Tempus, page 19

US 'has 300 banks at risk'

By NEIL BENNETT
BANKING CORRESPONDENT

MORE than 300 banks could fail in America this year if there is a war in the Gulf and a deep recession, William Seidman, chairman of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, said on American television.

Mr Seidman said that, with hindsight, the FDIC should have acted against the collapsed Bank of New England two years ago. Mr Seidman

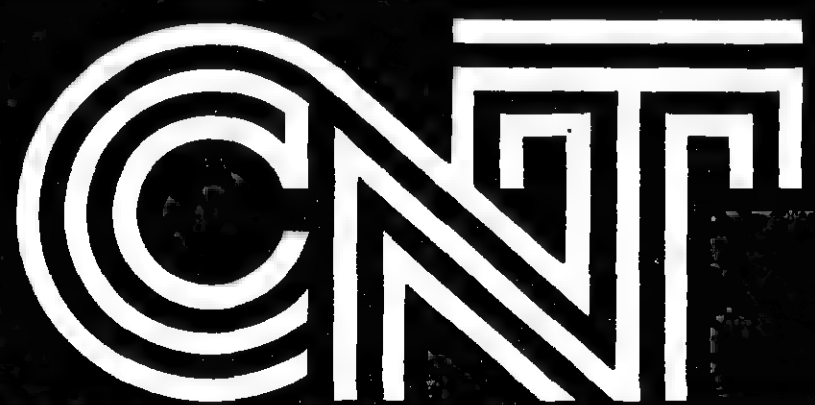
blamed the failure on bad management and imprudent lending rather than on fraud.

The BankAmerica Corporation, based in San Francisco, has confirmed it is negotiating to buy all or part of the Bank of New England. It said it is reviewing the Bank of New England's three operating subsidiaries in Massachusetts, Connecticut and Maine "regarding the possible acquisition of the deposits and certain assets of these banks". A prime condition of any

acquisition would be that the FDIC takes responsibility for the Bank of New England's non-performing loan book.

BankAmerica, the second largest bank in America, has so far escaped the storm of bad debts that has pushed many of its competitors into large losses. Net profits for 1990 are forecast to reach \$490 million.

Acquisition of the Bank of New England would put BankAmerica further towards its ambition to become America's first national bank.



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THE POUND

US dollar
1.9065 (+0.0010)
German mark
2.9170 (-0.0061)
Exchange index
93.9 (+0.1)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1638.9 (-10.9)
FT-SE 100
2099.9 (-13.4)
New York Dow Jones
2525.00 (+2.23)
Tokyo Nikkei Ave
22897.84 (-838.73)

Closing Prices ... Page 21
Major indices and major changes Page 20

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 14%
3-month Interbank 13 1/8% 13 1/8%
3-month eligible bills 13 1/8% 13 1/8%
US: Prime Rate 9 1/4%
Federal Funds 5 1/4%
3-month Treasury Bills 5.42-5.41%
30-year bonds 105 1/2-105 3/4%

CURRENCIES

London: New York
£: \$1.9065
£: DM2.9170
£: Sfr2.4537
£: FF9.9072
£: Yen229.95
£: Index: 93.9
ECU £0.70141
£: ECU1.428248

GOLD

London Fixing:
AM \$322.80 pm \$389.70
close \$389.50-389.00 (2039.80-334.30)
New York:
Comex \$390.75-391.25

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Jan 1) \$26.15 bbl (\$26.95)
* Denotes latest trading price

TOURIST RATES

	Bank	Rate
Australia \$	2.55	2.40
Austria Sch	21.50	20.10
Belgium Fr	63.00	55.00
Canada \$	2.31	2.16
Denmark Kr	11.76	11.05
Finland Mk	10.35	9.72
France Fr	10.35	9.72
Germany DM	3.05	2.86
Greece Dr	327	307
Hong Kong \$	15.30	14.50
Ireland Pt	1.14	1.07
Italy Lira	2295	2155
Japan Yen	275	258
Netherlands Gld	3.45	3.25
Norway Kr	11.92	11.23
Portugal Esc	200	185
Spain Ptas	166.64	152.48
Sweden Kr	11.37	10.69
Switzerland Fr	2.00	1.85
Turkey Lira	1.85	1.75
USA \$	1.9065	1.9065
Yugoslavia Dnr	130.00	120.00

Rates for small denomination bank only as supplied by Barclay Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.
Retail Price Index: 130.0 (November)

Birmingham Mint has recommended the hostile bid from IMI.

There will be four seminars, one on each country, in London over the next six months.

In addition, it holds a 51 per cent stake in Ganz-Hunslet, which operates mainly in Hungary.

The company also announced that it had taken a majority stake in Société de Contrôle Merin, a privately owned water distribution company that has a share of about 5 per cent of the French market. The acquisition will raise Lyonnaise's market share to 23 per cent.

THE Monopolies and Mergers Commission has delivered its report on the pricing of instant coffee to Peter Lilley, the industry secretary, bringing to an end the number of reports requiring action within the next eight weeks.

The latest report, result of an eight-month investigation, is by far the most contentious. Nestlé, the Swiss food group that pioneered the sale of instant coffee in Britain, has a 50 per cent share of a market worth £575 million a year. Sir Gordon Borrie, director-general of fair trading, asked for an enquiry in April, citing concerns that the price of instant coffee failed to fall with the price of coffee beans.

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Vol 466

**Subterranean
aeroplanes**

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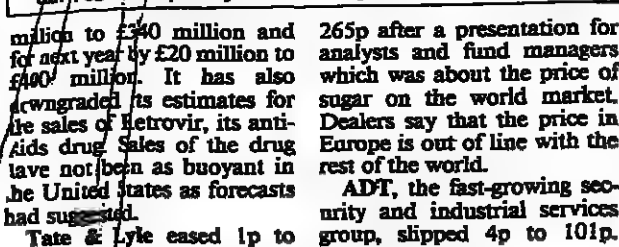
ID for Tessa

INVESTIGATE
difficult
new law
tax accountants
franchise
brands

STOCK MARKET

Gulf worries force dealers to take a defensive stance

man is said to have lost the money by buying and had run up the same selling short client. **JOE JOSEPH**



ADT	308	CU	940	Lorrio	1,482	Slough	86
Aikens Mill	184	Cookson	58	Lucas	1,517	Smith & N	1,890
Alk-Lyons	328	Courtside	1,711	Manpower	271	SK Beach	3,003
AgriStrad	2,205	Delgaty	192	M&S	4,764	Do Utah	293
Apollon	242	Dixons	900	MWVell Co	557	Smith WH	582

[illegible]

worried that Crown's full-year figures next Tuesday will contain bad news. The group, which owns LBC, has extensive debts, stemming from the launch of its split-frequency services.

on the USM, tumbled 12p to 23p — making a two-day fall of 22p — after issuing a warning on interim losses.

MICHAEL CLARK

Ricky Harrington, a technical analyst at Marion Bass Securities, said the early recovery was mainly due to the market being oversold.

● Sydney — The market slid to its fourth consecutive loss after see-saw trading. The All-Ordinaries index dipped 2.6 to 1,236.9.

(Reuters)

FALLS:	
Hammerson	635p (-17p)
Helical Bar	127½p (-15p)
Bartov Rand	527½p (-15p)
Wellcome	405½p (-14p)
BOC	475½p (-12p)
Carlton Comm	384p (-13p)
Chemical	378p (-11p)

MAJOR INDICES	
New York:	
Dow Jones	2525.00 (+2.23)
S&P Composite	315.75 (+0.31)
Tokyo:	
Nikkei Average	22857.54 (-886.73)
Hong Kong:	
Hong Seng	3009.42 (-17.10)

FT. Comd. West Inc.	90.97 (+0.04)
FT. Fixed Interest	90.97 (+0.04)
FT. Govt Secs	83.12 (+0.14)
Bargains	3088
SEAQ Volume	375.1
USM (Datastream)	107.01 (-0.96)

*Denotes latest trading price

[illegible]

Barnett Int	18%	19	Honeywell
Beauchamp Ind	84%	65	Houston Ind
Boyer Ind	28	25%	Heald Ind

[illegible]

Chrysler	30	30	Wegmans
Domestic Ecol	34%	34%	MCA
CNA Fnd	54%	53%	McDn Doug
Costco	28	28%	McDonalds

[illegible][illegible]

هكذا من الأصل

The first casualty?

William Howard Russell, the great war correspondent of *The Times*, asked his editor, John Delane, whether he should continue to report the mismanagement of the Crimean war. "Am I to tell these things, or hold my tongue?" he wrote, as he described the folly and inefficiency of the British generals. Delane told him to go ahead, circulating among cabinet ministers those reports that he did not publish for fear of *The Times* appearing unpatriotic.

Editors and their correspondents now face the same dilemmas in the Gulf that Russell and Delane first encountered. How can they report a war that will, inevitably, have its fair share of disasters and displays of military incompetence, while at the same time remaining patriotic? How can the flavour of battle be conveyed without endangering the Allied forces? When does a fair report become a valuable weapon to the enemy?

The guidelines released by the defence ministry this week attempt to provide ground rules. Many lessons have been learnt from the Falklands conflict, where it was generally felt that the MoD was heavy-handed and inconsistent in its censorship. The emphasis is now on the responsibility of editors and correspondents not to reveal information which would be of value to the enemy. The ministry lays down a number of prohibitions — such as describing planned operations, the rules of engagement, the techniques of special forces or intelligence gathering — with which no editor would quibble. Indeed, the tone of the documents emphasises co-operation and consultation rather than prohibition.

This openness does well, say foreign editors, although the proof will be very

Graham Paterson examines the dilemmas presented by Whitehall guidelines on reporting a Gulf conflict

much in how the arrangements work out in practice. The experience of the Falklands is that correspondents doing their job properly will, inevitably, clash with officers worried about the safety or morale of their men. But relations are already beginning to sour over negotiations for visas for Saudi Arabia. Newspapers feel the MoD is not pressing hard enough on their behalf and after an acrimonious meeting yesterday the publishers are planning to appeal to John Major, the prime minister, to ensure adequate representation. The demand by the television companies for three-man crews has angered newspapers because they fear they may be squeezed out. The television companies, aware that, even more than in Vietnam, this could be a war in which public support will be won or lost according to the nature of their pictures, are also anxious. Rules for photography restrict all "identifiable pictures of casualties unless the casualties have been named in an official casualty list" — an almost impossible task.

The MoD's emphasis on the responsibility of editors and correspondents is inevitable, given the likely nature of a Gulf conflict. During the Falklands conflict, lack of access to satellite transmission meant it often took weeks for television pictures to appear on

British screens, but coverage from the Gulf will be instantaneous. Saddam Hussein, an avid viewer of the Atlanta-based Cable News Network, may find himself able to watch his enemies' side of the battle. Satellite telephones, lightweight picture wiring equipment and the portable computer will ensure that many more words and pictures will flow into the newsrooms of the world's press than in any previous conflict. The volume of information would simply overwhelm the censorship systems applied in previous wars.

As a result, the temptation for the military planners will be to shepherd the press away from the sharp end of battle. There are already worrying signs that the British and American military are putting their faith in news management rather than in blanket censorship. A huge public relations machine is being geared up in Riyadh. After months of waiting for action, the war correspondents may well find themselves grateful for any information, however spoon-fed, if fighting begins.

A concern among senior officers who have been hating with the British press is that, in the opening days of a war, it may well be Saddam who gains the true propaganda victory. A skeleton staff of western correspondents is planning to stay on in Baghdad. If an Allied air assault on Iraq is launched, it is they who will be taken to bombed schools or orphanages as Saddam attempts to turn world opinion against the war. Their reports and pictures, which lie entirely outside the scope of the MoD rules, will be on front pages and television screens at a moment when little or no information will be coming from the Allied side. In handling the media the MoD may still have a lot to learn from Saddam.



Finger the culprit: a wartime poster highlights the problems of war reporting

MEDIA WATCH

Appeal for cash at falling *Star*

THE *Morning Star*, in grave danger of withering away as the daily voice of the hardline British Communist party, has stepped up its appeal for funding after the Soviet Union suspended its subscription order. The newspaper, which has lost about £400,000 of its £1 million annual turnover as a result of the Soviet move, has asked its readers and party members to find £40,000 towards new technology in order to cut its costs. It has also launched an appeal to get its readers to give up smoking and donate what they save to the paper. The drive for new funds comes as the *Star*, whose circulation is its lowest ever at 8,500, announced it is to shed staff through voluntary redundancy and raise its cover price for the first time in seven years, by 10p to 40p.

Boom year for cinema

BRITISH cinemas are celebrating a record year for advertising revenue and box office receipts, with the Christmas releases of *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*, *The Little Mermaid*, *The Neverending Story Part 2* and *Home Alone* likely to have pushed the 1990 audience figures well beyond the projected 91 million, Rank Screen Advertising (RSA) reports. As industrial and retail companies face the country's deepest recession since the Seventies, the cinema industry is booming with films such as *Ghost* (grossing more than £17 million) and *Pretty Woman* (£12 million), resulting in the highest admissions for ten years. "Going to the cinema these days is a much more enjoyable experience than it used to be," Peter Howard-Williams, managing director of RSA, said. Since 1985, 415 multiplex screens have opened, representing an investment of more than £300 million.

Here Today, gone...

MEDIA coverage, in particular the feature-length stories on single television advertisements, has always been something of an obsession at *Today*. But with media correspondent Siân James one of the 45 journalists facing redundancy since Monday's staff cuts, the days of advertisement as cult may be numbered. At least three other specialist reporters and four general news reporters, as well as three news desk executives, have lost their jobs. At least 10 feature writers and sub-editors have also been made redundant.

TV windfall for Gaels

AN EXTRA £1.5 million has been made available by the government to finance Gaelic television programmes. Ian Lang, the Scottish secretary, has announced. The newly-created Gaelic Broadcasting Committee, which aims to transmit 200 hours of Gaelic television a year by 1993, has had its 1992-93 budget increased from £8 million to £9.5 million. At present, about 100 hours of Gaelic output are transmitted each year in Scotland by BBC Scotland, Scottish Television and Grampian Television.

MELINDA WITTSTOCK

Orchestrated campaign for the Phil

Saatchi's lost account was valued at only £60,000, but it is worth a small fortune

SEVERAL leading advertising agencies have been competing frantically for a tiny account that will make them no money and cost continuous creative input at boardroom level.

The London Philharmonic, which four years ago became the first symphony orchestra to link with a large agency, has parted company with Saatchi & Saatchi because, according to its marketing director, Judy Grahame, "the agency has so many other matters on its mind that it could not give us full attention".

Saatchi was hired to raise the orchestra's public profile shortly after it failed in an attempt to take over the rival Philharmonia. Saatchi came up with an imaginative poster campaign on London Underground platforms describing how members of the orchestra prepared for their solos, the percussionist buying

knitting needles for Bartok, the first violinist borrowing a gypsy fiddle for Mahler's Fourth, and so on.

The theme aroused some rivalry in the musical profession when a horn player was featured explaining why he abstained from kissing his wife for two days before a big concert.

Saatchi, nevertheless, could claim a share in the orchestra's rising fortunes, which won it a coveted residency at the South Bank Centre. The account was minuscule — an advertising spend of £60,000 a year, on which the agency earned 15 per cent commission — but its prestige value was such that it was handled personally by

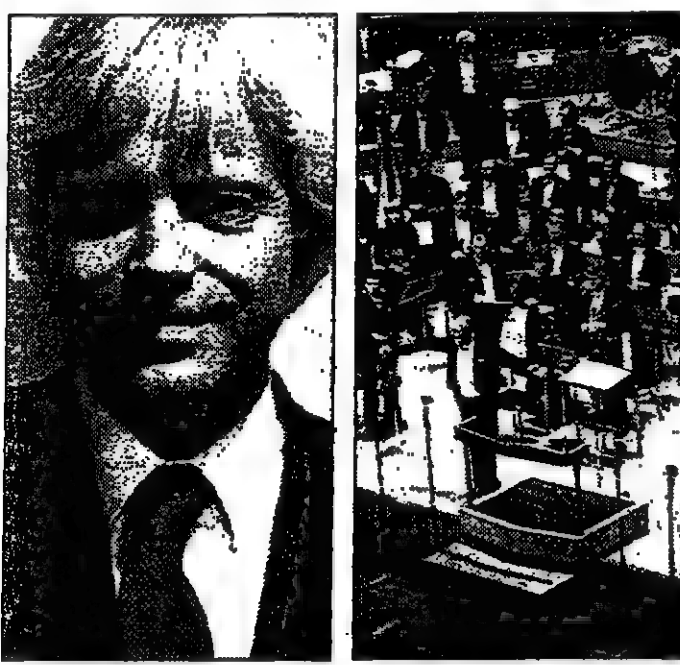
Saatchi's joint managing director, David Kernshaw. The two sides parted when Saatchi declined to pitch again for the account against a number of contenders.

As soon as word got round that the account was slipping, Grahame was "flooded with offers" from agencies large and small. Shortlisted applicants were asked to devise a fresh approach to potential sponsors and the account was narrowly won on creative grounds by Abbott, Mead, Vickers, ahead of the more flamboyant Yellowhammer. The brief will be looked after once again by a senior figure, AMV's chairman, David Abbott.

The attraction of this tiny account does not lie on its profitability, but earnings which can be made from the arts are not always immediately visible. Music, in particular, brings an agency into crush-bar contact with big sponsors — the Prudential and Pioneer are among the London Philharmonic supporters — and gains it prime space in exclusive media read by captive audiences of chairmen and chief executives. The London Philharmonic, for example, has a full page in the *Glyndebourne* programme.

No agency could make a living from an arts portfolio, but by winning one or two high-profile accounts an advertising agency can acquire the prestige of mixing with the arts — at considerably less than the price of sponsorship.

NORMAN LEBRECHT



Advertising theme: David Abbott and the London Philharmonic

BBC BBC BBC

Editor 'File on 4'

BBC North

Manchester

File on 4 is BBC Radio 4's flagship Current Affairs documentary series and is part of the range of weekly programmes from News and Current Affairs. It has been acclaimed for its timely and comprehensive reportage of major issues at home and abroad.

We seek a new Editor to lead the editorial team, based in Manchester. You will have to demonstrate authoritative editorial leadership of the highest calibre. It is essential that candidates should demonstrate a comprehensive grasp of current domestic and international affairs, gleaned from sustained experience of broadcast journalism, at a senior level. You will be expected to have imaginative ideas about how to make compelling radio programmes.

The Editor is responsible for motivating the team, assigning projects and managing programme budgets and other resources. It is, therefore, essential that candidates should demonstrate evidence of a high degree of managerial ability.

This post will be offered as either a permanent position (salary in the range £21,906 - £28,316 p.a.) or on a contract basis (salary in the range £25,192 - £32,563 p.a.) plus an allowance of £1,326 p.a. Salary may be higher for exceptionally qualified candidates.

For further details contact Les Robinson on 061-200 2272 or Brian Walker on 071-927 5180.

For an application form please ring BBC North Recruitment on 061-236 8538 (before Tuesday January 15th quoting ref. 6886/T).

Application forms to be returned by January 22nd.

News Producer & Reporter

BBC South & East

Greater London Radio

The BBC Board of Governors has just given GLR a big vote of confidence. The station is highly rated for its news coverage — particularly of London stories — and is renowned for playing "really good music".

If you are a first class radio journalist, ambitious, energetic and eager to get to grips with one of the most demanding jobs in radio, then we'd like to hear from you.

You should be equally at home running the busiest bulletins desk in the country and producing imaginative sequence programmes, presented by some of the country's top broadcasters.

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£15,836 - £21,242 plus an allowance of £1,326 p.a.
£17,961 - £24,428 plus an allowance of £1,326 p.a. (contract). (Ref. 6743/T)

Reporter
£13,739 - £16,541 plus an allowance of £776 p.a.
£15,800 - £19,022 plus an allowance of £776 p.a. (contract). (Ref. 6744/T)

Based Central London.
GLR is also always interested to hear from experienced freelance journalists.

For further details contact James Cameron, Editor, on 071-224 2424.
Applications welcomed from all people regardless of gender, race or disability.
For an application form please telephone 081-207 8983 (24 hours) quoting appropriate ref.

Application forms to be returned by January 21st.



WE WANT YOUR OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYERS

Computer Newspaper Services
A PRESS ASSOCIATION COMPANY
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North Humberside DN14 7BL

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Computer Newspaper Services is looking for experienced and self-motivated young journalists to work in our rapidly expanding TV/Radio listings/editorial department.

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If you can work independently, with flair, to exacting standards, write with a CV to Mike Jones at the above address.

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A U.K. quoted Public Limited Company recognised as World Leaders in their field have vacancies for National Sales Executives to sell capital equipment to the Construction, Mining and Recycling Industries.

This is an opportunity for people aged 20-35 who are ambitious and aggressive and who wish to build a career in selling or possibly even owning their own business.

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Please reply with a detailed C.V. and letter of application in your own handwriting to Personnel Manager at Box No 2458.

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Recruitment line - 0800 404 860
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Required for Language School in London.
This is an important and responsible position and demands an ability to deal with large numbers of different personalities in an efficient and good humoured manner.
The successful applicant will be familiar with all aspects of office procedure and will be required to regularly visit host families.
Starting salary of £12,000 per annum a.s.c.
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Central London £20-£25K negotiable
CARE, the international relief and development charity, requires a Director of Fundraising for its UK operations.
Reporting to the National Director, the post-holder will be responsible for directing all marketing, fundraising, promotional, press and public relations activities, and for the management of an energetic and busy Department of 7 people.
Candidates will have at least 5 years' senior level experience in marketing and/or fundraising, not necessarily in the voluntary sector, and will have good all round management skills.
Closing date for applications is Friday, 10th January.
Please send your C.V. in confidence to Blaise Grimes-Taylor, CARE Britain, 36-38 Southampton Street, London WC2E 7HE.
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LEGAL LOOSE-LEAF WORK
3 DAYS A WEEK
SALARY £11.00 PER ANNUM
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Applicants must be able to carry out market research and to plan sales strategies and have a proven record in developing contacts.
Experience of product development also desirable.
Closing date for applications: Monday 25th January 1991.
For further information and an application form please write to:
Chief Executive
Citizens Advice Notes Service Trust,
1 Stoddard Green,
London
SW9 9HP or phone 071-326 0356

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Join elite operations team in well established up-market travel company.
Are you energetic, enthusiastic, physically fit, over 21, available from mid-March and looking for a challenge? Do you have a good social manner, enjoy food and wine, art and architecture, flowers, sailing and working across country?
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Send SAE (20p stamp) to:
Allanston Travel Group
1-3 George Street, Bristol BS1 2JL.

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Experienced Advertising Salesperson is required by an established Central London publishing company. We produce a wide range of titles for both the UK and European markets. The successful applicant will enjoy excellent working conditions, generous career prospects and high earnings by way of a generous commission structure.
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The M.J. Group.

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SECRETARIES
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Starting salary (depending on experience) for Secretaries with the requisite skills within the range £11,140 pa - £12,355 pa and for Typist with Word-processing skills within the range £9,272 pa - £11,260 pa.
If you are interested apply by postcard only for further details on all posts and an application form to:
The Recruitment Officer, Tate Gallery
Millbank, London SW1P 4RG
The closing date for the return of completed application forms is Wednesday 23rd January 1991.
The Tate Gallery is an equal opportunities employer and welcomes applications from all sections of the community.

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PA/SECRETARY TO COMPANY SECRETARY

HAMMERSMITH

Salary negotiable + benefits

Lifeco Travel Management is one of the world's largest independent travel companies with over 300 locations globally. We are industry leaders in the development of business travel management through our rapidly expanding network of offices.

We are seeking an experienced PA/Secretary with excellent organisational, shorthand and typing skills to assist our Company Secretary. You will provide full secretarial support and have a flexible attitude. You will also have responsibility for various administration duties.

If you are interested, please send your CV in strict confidence to the Personnel Officer, Lifeco Travel Management, 1-15 King Street, London W6 9FR, or telephone 081-741 9861 for further information.

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Fax: 071-224 9887
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NADEN BLAIR

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LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

South Side £18,000

A successful young advertising agency in Kennington is looking for an intelligent individual to join as PA to the Chief Executive.

Your broad range of duties will include interfacing between the CE and his staff, developing an understanding of how the company is run and gradually assuming responsibility for planning your boss's business day. Faultless presentation of work and sound English are vital, in order to provide first-class secretarial support. Skills 100/60/audiotyping. Age 25-35. For more than a 9-5 job, please contact Sabina Stewart on 071-588 3535.

Crone Corkill

The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development which has been formed to assist the economies of Eastern European Nations is now entering its next phase of expansion. Consequently a number of new secretarial positions have been created.

Located in the City, an attractive package is offered after a probationary period for this unique opportunity.

You must be bilingual, have extensive WP experience as well as excellent shorthand and typing skills, and can be British or Expatriate, but prepared to spend short periods in Eastern Europe.

Applications in writing (and previous applicants may re-apply) including current CV and daytime telephone number and quoting reference K28890 should be sent to:

Secretarial Challenge!

Kingsway Advertising,
Nutmeg House,
60 Gainsford Street,
Butlers Wharf,
London SE1 2NS.

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Join this world renowned Cosmetics House as PA to their Managing Director. You must thrive on involvement and responsibility to cope with a variety of duties from arranging banquets, presentations and team visits to masterminding travel itineraries, running the office and dealing with everything from maintenance to recruitment. To join this innovative and exciting team you must be organised and efficient, aged 25-35, with skills of 90/60/WP. Please telephone Sarah Stewart on 071-434 4512.

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Delightful senior legal executive of successful investment bank seeks an efficient, enthusiastic sec./PA. You need commercial, legal, excellent secretarial (100/60/WP), and an organised approach to deal with clients, liaise with departments and make the day run as smoothly as possible. Age 21-30. Beautiful offices. Excellent bonus, BUPA, L.V.s. Please telephone Fines Marriott on 071 434 4512.

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We are looking for a well skilled, (100/60), and computer literate individual to support this busy manager while also using your excellent communication skills to liaise with, and train staff.

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RECRUITMENT

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Leading International Executive Search firm requires 2 PA/Sec's for Directors.

Candidates must be capable of dealing confidentially with senior level executives, have excellent organisational skills, be used to working on own initiative and educated at least to 'A' level standard. Speeds of 100/65 are essential. WordPerfect. One position does not require shorthand. Age ca 25-35 preferred.

Please fax CV on 071-930 8085 or telephone Rebecca Etherington on 071-930 4334 for further details.

SOCIAL SECRETARY/PA

c. £15,000

A distinguished and popular member of the British aristocracy needs a confident PA who is the kind of fast & discreet to help organize her varied & busy life. You will be dealing with members of the aristocracy as well as managing her very active social life. Applicants with a pleasant approach, good ST and speed of 100/60 are required. A proven experience would be preferred.

071-431 2277

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TELEVISION & ARTS are just some of the areas we specialise in. We are looking for bright, self-motivated secretaries, minimum 50 typing, to fill a variety of exciting positions. If you want involvement, interest and independence from the moment you start, call us for an important career step, not an interim career step, call us.

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Contribute to the company's reputation for excellence in the arts and events industry. You will be responsible for the day to day running of the department, liaising with the various departments and ensuring that all events are run smoothly and efficiently.

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London WC2E 8NH.

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£15,000 + benefits

The charming chairman of this British Forces advisory body needs a right hand private secretary to use their flair and initiative to handle a varied and sensitive workload.

Contribute to the company's reputation for excellence in the advisory services industry. You will be responsible for the day to day running of the department, liaising with the various departments and ensuring that all events are run smoothly and efficiently.

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Excellent opportunity for self-motivated PA/Assistant to work in busy international accountancy practice based in Knightsbridge. Small team means great responsibility with promotion prospects.

Familiarity with computer packages including Wordstar/WordPerfect required.

Foreign languages useful but not essential.

Please call 071-255 1540 during the hours of 9.30am and 6.00pm.

LEARN NEW SKILLS

and REFRESH OLD ONES

St. James's College in Kensington offers short courses in Word Processing, Keyboarding, Shorthand and more! For details telephone Gina Lawes on 071 373 3852/2190/5398

BILINGUAL P.A.

French mother tongue

Anglo-French estate agency requires bilingual Director's P.A. for varied work in bright modern Chelsea office £12,000 + p.a. acc. exp. & exp.

Call Catherine RUTHERFORDS Tel. 071 351 4454

Crabtree & Evelyn LONDON

SECRETARY/P.A. TO THE DESIGN DIRECTOR

The above position has arisen in the Head Office of this International company. Based in Kensington, the right candidate would become part of a friendly, energetic office.

Previous experience in a design studio or similar is an advantage but not essential. A working knowledge of French would also be helpful. Sound typing ability is essential.

The right candidate will probably be aged between 24-35, have an enthusiastic attitude and looking to make a career from a new job. Excellent salary offered.

Please send full C.V. to:
Deborah Coulson
Crabtree & Evelyn Ltd.
55-57 South Edwards Square
London W8 6HP.

PA/SECRETARY

London £16,000 neg + benefits

An excellent opportunity exists at this well-established market leading company for a PA/Secretary to assist one of its Directors.

This is a key role providing support across a number of areas, including research and preparation of draft reports and all matters relating to the Director's workload. Based in the West End, you will sometimes be required to work from our office in Ashford, Middlesex.

We seek applicants who are mature, although age is not a limiting factor, and who have the personality, confidence and experience to take responsibility for accuracy and to work on their own initiative. Educated to 'O' level standard with English, Maths and French as strong subjects, you will ideally possess a qualification in Business Studies at diploma or HNC level. The ability to speak and understand spoken and written French would be a distinct advantage, as would previous experience in a similar role.

To apply, please send your cv to: Diller Barbe, Onyx UK Ltd, 8 Headfort Place, London SW1. Telephone: 071-823 1980.

Onyx UK Limited is an Equal Opportunities Employer

P.A./SECRETARY TO MANAGING DIRECTOR

London/Surrey Borders £13,000

We are a successful expanding independent electrical retailer selling electrical appliances and consumer electronics.

This interesting and demanding position requires a capable, reliable and adaptable person. You will be responsible for providing full secretarial support to the Managing Director plus some support to two other members of the management team.

The successful candidate must have at least five years proven P.A. experience with fast shorthand speeds and be able to demonstrate higher excellent organisational skills together with the ability to perform effectively under pressure in our "hands on" culture.

Applicants should reply in confidence with full CV to:

Ray Selman, Personnel Manager
Tempo plc
Unit 1, 181 Kingston Road, New Malden, Surrey KT3 3PQ

TEMPO

ELECTRICAL SUPPLIES

Start Now

£16,000

St John's Wood based art dealer seeks an excellent Secretary/Administrative Assistant. Working in the family home, you should have the confidence to keep control of all aspects of the business during her frequent travels. You must be well educated, able to liaise at all levels with diplomacy and have skills of 70 typing/audiotyping. Age 28-40. Numeracy essential. Please call Joanne Benaggett on 071-434 4512.

Crone Corkill

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

SECRETARY

Mayfair Estate Agents seek cheerful, hard working person with excellent secretarial and administration skills to ensure smooth running of their head office. The successful applicant will be working for the Managing Director as well as giving secretarial support to other directors and will be required to be reliable, unfatigable and have a good sense of humour. Excellent salary for the right person.

Please apply in writing to:
Egerton Limited, 127 Mount Street, London W1Y 5HA.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S PA

c. £20,000

Prestigious international public relations company is looking for an experienced PA to assist their Chief Executive. This is a top level role which will include VIP liaison, true involvement and organisation of business and social events. Suit proactive self-starter with initiative and style. 55 wpm audio typing. Age: late 20's - 30's

Please telephone 071 498 0247 for more information

19/20 Brooks Street, London W1X 9FD

Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Wine Company - Notting Hill

£12,000 - £13,000

We are looking for an enthusiastic, efficient, hard-working and outgoing young Secretary, to work for two Directors in a prestigious and expanding young wine company.

Please telephone Suzie/Amanda on 071 727 6846

Age 19-24 90/60

Maine - Tucker Recruitment Consultants

CRISIS... WHAT CRISIS?

Circa £17-20,000

Actually, there is a Recession BUT like all recessions there is always a hard core of Businesses that remain untouched. Companies that by their own energies and their dynamic leaders push unerringly upwards in the world of Commerce. We number our Clients among these and, as such, the following top flight Secretaries are urgently needed:

PR at Chairman level - £20,000+
A shimmering new job in a top 10 PR Agency - a PA not a Secretary...aged 25 to 35...50 typing.

A famous Company, a Chairman's Secretary - £16,000 + 5 wks hols + 1%
If people are important... a really involving fun Manover Square Secretarial job... aged 25 to 35...100/65

A shapable MD's Secretary - £17,000 + Free Lunches + modest pkg
No nasty audio here, a 9-5 super-secretarial job in W1. One really fun man to tend! With 90/55 & aged 25 to 35...

A Knightsbridge MD's PA in PR - £17,000 + 5 wks hols + 1%
A good crowd... a very Client orientated job... FUN...aged 25 to 35 & having 50 typing (shorthand a plus)...

18-21 Jersey Street London SW1Y 6HP Telephone: 071-734 7341

Maine - Tucker Recruitment Consultants

CRIME... SCIENCE

FICTION... ART...

£12-13,000 + Early leave every Friday + extra Hols + BUPA Sub + Gymn + Restaurant (delicious!)

If you've worked in any Sales-type office and you are keen on getting into Publishing, and you don't just want a job for now BUT a step ladder to move you out of Secretarial... then this is it! This down-to-earth Company working from this most fabulous offices we have ever seen, offering sumptuous parties & brilliant Prospects could be the one you've been waiting for. There is no catch but you do need to be 23 to 28, have 80 shorthand (min) & 50 typing and be prepared to be a Secretary for 18 months. If this is you, don't turn the page, get yourself into Print!

18-21 Jersey Street London SW1Y 6HP Telephone: 071-734 7341

Go for Gold!

£14,000 + bens

Go-ahead and rapidly expanding firm of commodity brokers based in E1 seeks a super secretary to assist one of their charming, young Associate Directors. Situated on the trading floor, you will co-ordinate his client meetings and lunches, prioritise his diary, field his calls and take responsibility for maintaining detailed and accurate client files. Team spirit and a sense of humour essential for dealing with all the brokers! If you enjoy a hectic, professional and fun moving atmosphere, have skills 90/60/WP and are aged 20-28, please call Esther Marsden on 071-256 5018.

HOBSTONES RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

MULTILINGUAL SERVICES

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

GERMAN: Top-level PA to assist Senior Partner of international law firm. A stimulating and sometimes pressured job for someone (probably mid-thirties onwards) with perfect German, excellent English, senior experience, excellent technical and organising skills. £18K - £20K.

FRENCH: A start-up situation: PA/Secretary urgently required to help set up and run small new office of French-backed company, opening shortly. Must have perfect spoken and written French, superb skills and organising ability, elegance and a sense of humour. £18K - £20K a week.

ITALIAN & FRENCH: PA/Secretary (mid-thirties/early thirties) with excellent spoken and written Italian and French, plus good English shorthand. A busy, varied and interesting role assisting MD of an international industrial services company in beautiful West End offices. To £18K.

071 836 3794

22 Charing Cross Road, London WC2H 0HR

SECRETARY/ADMINISTRATOR

to £13,500

The Subscription Director of this prestigious, very well known Magazine Publishing Company is looking for a competent secretary to assist her in all aspects of her work. This position comprises fifty percent secretarial duties and fifty percent clerical/administrative. A real team player, conscientious and keen to work hard in a busy and demanding environment. Lots of contact with the general public plus the opportunity to assist with promotional events. Minimum age late twenties, shorthand useful but not essential.

071 497 8003

SUSAN DOUGHTY
RECRUITMENT

Suite 314, Bedford Chambers, North Razz, Covent Garden, London WC2

PERSONNEL SECRETARY

We are an international Bank in the City and a vacancy has arisen in our Personnel Department, for a secretary to be responsible for all Personnel related correspondence, keeping diaries, setting up interviews etc.

The applicant must have previous Personnel Secretarial experience, above average word processing (Wordperfect 5), knowledge of PC's and a good telephone manner.

Salary £14,000, plus excellent bank benefits.

C.V.'s to:

Kathy Scott
Senior Personnel Officer
The Bank of Nova Scotia
33, Finsbury Square, London EC2A 1BB.

TOP WEST END AGENCY

P.A. TO M.D.

£18,000 +

Prestigious Advertising Agency is looking for a bright young senior-level PA with excellent secretarial (100/60), organisation and communication skills. Previous advertising agency experience is essential.

As the most senior PA in the company you will be fully involved in every aspect of the MD's work and ensure the smooth running of his office.

An excellent opportunity to move into a challenging position within a young and friendly environment

PEOPLE UNLIMITED

071-495 0141

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Lewis leaves her field floundering



Gasping for breath: Nesty powers onwards in the 100 metres butterfly event. He went on to win Surinam's first medal in the championships

Szechy puts the success of his swimmers, who include Norbert Rozsa, aged 19, who beat Adrian Moorhouse and broke the world record for 100 metres breaststroke on Monday, down to hard work.

"They train up to 20 kilometres a day, six days a week," he said. "The hard work, then the success."

Twins claim a double gold

Soviet Union	1	1	1	3
Netherlands	1	1	—	2
Italy	1	—	5	6
Canada	1	—	1	2
Burkina Faso	1	—	—	1
Japan	—	1	1	2
France	—	1	—	1
Great Britain	—	1	—	1
Denmark	—	—	2	2
Czechoslovakia	—	—	1	1
Poland	—	—	1	1

RESULTS FROM PERTH

Men

4 x 200 metres freestyle relay
FINAL: 1, Germany 9' 58.2; 2, Zaener, 5
 Pfeiffer, M Grosse, 7min 13.50sec; 2
 United States 10' 04.8; M Stewart, 2
 Jorgensen, D Gorman, 7:14.87; 3, Italy (E
 Idini, R Glaris, S Battistini, G Lamberti):
 7:17.18; 4, Sweden, 7:18.10; 5, Soviet
 Union, 7:20.54; 6, Australia, 7:21.98; 7,
 Canada, 7:22.74; 8, Poland, 7:27.18.

Diving

Three-metre springboard
QUALIFIERS FOR FINAL: 1, T Langa
 (China), 687.90sec; 2, A Kmet 1060.

China	1	22	5
United States	1	20	10
Germany	1	1	8
Hungary	1	1	8
Australia	1	12	3
Soviet Union	1	1	3
Netherlands	1	1	4
Italy	1	5	4
Canada	1	1	2
Surinam	1	1	1
Japan	1	1	1
France	1	1	1
Great Britain	1	1	1
Denmark	1	2	1
Czechoslovakia	1	1	1
Poland	1	1	1

Swimming

Synchronised swimming

Duet

FINAL: 1, S and K Josephson (USA), 199.78pts; 2, M Kotani and A Takayama (Japan), 194.307; 3, K Glen and L Alexander (Can), 182.69; 4, G Medvedova and O Sedukova (USSR), 182.285; 5, A Capron and K Schuler (Fr), 168.367; 6, Wang Xiaojie and Guo Zhen (China), 178.100; 7, P Cui and G Burlando (It), 178.740; 8, L Olvera and S Cardenas (Mex), 178.715.

MEDALS TABLE

	G	S	B	TS
China	5	2	2	5
United States	5	2	1	10
Germany	5	2	1	9
Hungary	5	2	1	2
Australia	5	2	1	2
Soviet Union	1	1	1	3
Netherlands	1	1	1	3
Italy	1	1	3	4
Canada	1	1	1	2
Switzerland	1	1	1	2
Japan	1	1	1	1
France	1	1	1	1
Great Britain	1	1	1	1
Denmark	1	1	2	3
Czechoslovakia	1	1	1	1
Belgium	1	1	1	1

Diving

Three-metre springboard
QUALIFIERS FOR FINAL: 1. T Liang (China), 637.80pc; 2. A Klot (Ger), 637.80pc.

Synchronised swimming

Dust
 FINAL: 1, S and K Josephson (USA), 199.782pts; 2, M Kotani and A Takayama (Japan), 194.507; 3, K Glen and L Alexander (Can), 182.646; 4, G Medvedev and O Sedakova (USSR), 182.288; 5, A Capron and K Schuler (Fr), 188.367; 6, Wang Xiaofei and Guen Zewen (China), 178.100; 7, P Coll and G Burriand (Nz), 178.740; 8, L Olvera and S Cardenas (Mex), 178.718.

Court of Appeal

Entitlement to recover money

Jury notes

LORD JUSTICE FARQUHARSON said most authorities related to the period

where they concerned the evidence in or the conduct of the case. The idea of such communications being made privately was totally unacceptable.

Lord Justice Butler-Sloss and Lord Justice Beldam agreed.
Solicitors: Wedlake Bell; Shindler & Co.

were wages as defined by the Act: see section 7(1)(a). Very broadly the object of the Act was to see that workers received their wages in full at the time

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Watkins and Mr Justice Oton) held in a reserved judgment on December 21 in dismissing

LORD JUSTICE WATKINS said that the so-called right to have the assistance of a McKenzie friend" (*McKenzie v*

their decision that no injustice could be done if they refused the application and that the proceedings bore the appearance of fairness.

Jury notes must be made known

LORD JUSTICE FARQUHARSON said most authorities related to the period

it did not necessarily follow that the contents should be made available to counsel. But they must be shown to counsel where they concerned the evidence in or the conduct of the case. The idea of such communications being made privately was totally unacceptable.

Accordingly, the judge came to the right conclusion.

Lord Justice Butler-Sloss and Lord Justice Beldam agreed.

Solicitors: Wedlake Bell; Shindler & Co.

Holiday pay and commission were wages as defined by the Act: see section 7(1)(a). Very broadly the object of the Act was to see that workers received their wages in full at the time

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Watkins and Mr Justice Oulton) held in a reserved judgment on December 21 in dismissing

LORD JUSTICE WATKINS said that the so-called right to receive the assistance of a "McKenzie friend" (*McKenzie v*

When considering an application that a friend assist an represented defendant justes must strive to ensure by air decision that no injustice ould be done if they refused the application and that the oceedings bore the appearance of fairness.

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